

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND China Overland Trade Report.

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BIRTHS.

On the 25th May, at Kenilworth, Barker Road, Singapore, the wife of J. L. VAN HOUTEN, of a son.
On the 29th May, at No. 4, Ormsby Villas, Kowloon, the wife of JOHN BYRON SCOTT, of a daughter.

Hongkong Weekly Press

HONGKONG OFFICE: 14, DES VŒUX ROAD CL.
LONDON OFFICE: 131, FLEET STREET, E.C.

ARRIVAL OF MAILS.

The English Mail of May 6th, and the French Mail (delayed owing to the strike at Marseilles), arrived per steamer *Ballaarat*, on Thursday, the 2nd inst.

EPITOME OF THE WEEK

Telegrams, etc., relating to the war will be found on p. 416.

The Government disfavours the recommendation of the Royal Commission that a conscript home defence force should be created.

The P. & O. Company's steamer *Macedonia* which left London on April 29th took on board £29,781 in silver coin for Hongkong.

Recent events in the arena of the war have created a very pessimistic feeling in Russia. Upwards of 1,360 arrests have been made in Russia for political offences.

The contract for the conveyance of mails to the East has been signed [with the P. & O. Company?] for three years. It provides for an acceleration of the service by twenty-four hours.

Fresh reports continue to reach Shanghai of stray mines wandering about the Gulf of Pechili.

Japan papers state that it was a Japanese engineer, Mr. Masahide Yoshida, who installed the telephone system in Canton.

The Waiwupu has notified all the provinces of China that all *lekin*-stations are to be abolished from the 1st of January next.

The appointment has been gazetted of Mr. T. Ffennel Carlisle as H.B.M.'s Consul for French Indo-China, to reside at Hanoi.

The Philippine Constabulary have arrested Ricarte at Mariveles, where it is presumed that he was waiting to be smuggled across to Hongkong.

Madras and Bengal have reimposed quarantine regulations against vessels arriving from Hongkong owing to the existence of plague in the Colony.

It is stated that Admiral Cooper, with a portion of the United States ships on the Asiatic station, will be at Chefoo some time during June. The squadron will probably include the majority of the battleships and cruisers.

Captain R. T. Toke, Welsh Regiment, who has been serving with the Chinese Regiment of Infantry at Wei-hai-wei, and who was with the China Expedition of 1900, has been appointed Assistant Military Attaché at Tokyo.

Owing to the increase in the commercial relations of the Straits with French Indo-China the Banque de l'Indo-Chine has received the necessary authorisation from the French Minister of the Colonies to open a branch at Singapore.

The Government of Bengal has notified that the regulations for the prevention of the introduction of plague by sea, issued by Government, will be enforced in the ports of Orissa and in the port of Chittagong against vessels arriving from Hongkong.

The *Sinwenpao* states that it is reported from Newchwang that no less than 8,000 mounted bandits—not Hunglutze—are lurking in the vicinity of that port waiting for the abandonment of the city by the Russians to fall upon the unlucky inhabitants and plunder them.

The *Matin* publishes a report from Lyons, which it has every reason to believe is authentic, that Russia has ordered from a French factory in Saint Chamond, war material to the value of nine million francs, and that Japan has also expended seven millions for the same purpose.

Word has been received in Tientsin from the two Japanese prospectors who were up there last year prospecting for petroleum, saying that though they are satisfied with the results of their visit, they have abandoned the idea of doing anything in the way of mining, at least until the war with Russia is over.

Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., the general managers, inform us that they have received the following telegram from the Board of Directors of the Indo-China S. N. Co., Ltd., London:—"General Meeting of Shareholders will take place on the 7th June, when it is proposed to declare a dividend of 5 per cent."

The cruiser *Iphigenia*, Captain W. B. Fawcner, sailed on 27th April, from Portsmouth, to relieve the *Talbot* on the China Station.

The *Universal Gazette* writes:—Mr. Lessar, the Russian Minister at Peking, has become much milder and more reasonable, diplomatically. The Waiwupu issued a circular to the Diplomatic Corps the other day relating to the Chinese Red Cross Society, and the Russian Minister was the first to affix his signature to it, indicating acquiescence.

Mr. Allen, the United States Minister, reports that the Korean Government is not now granting mining or other concessions, hence, "applications for such are useless." In regard to positions, Mr. Allen says: The Korean Government is not now in need of foreign assistants, as mining or other engineers, physicians, advisers, teachers, army officers, &c.

We take the following from the *P. & T. Times*:—The Peking official who conveyed the portrait of the Empress Dowager to Shanghai, carried with him the customary Imperial command for the first *samli* of the season to be sent up to the Palace, and it was accordingly sent up to Peking, carefully packed in ice, a few days ago. The custom is to reward the fisherman catching the *samli* with the weight of the fish in silver.

We see that according to the latest American papers, an excursion steamer will leave San Francisco within a very short time to visit accessible points in connection with the Russo-Japanese war. The ship will be chartered for the round trip and will be conducted somewhat after the style of the famous Cook's tours. The advices mention particularly the Gulf of Pechili and Newchwang, indicating that the tourists pass close to Chefoo.

The question of the defence of Indo-China continues to be much discussed in Paris. On the land side, military organisation is sufficiently complete to render the Chinese frontier secure. The Delta, however, is virtually unprotected, and under pressure of possibilities arising from the present war, plans have been formed for maintaining there a standing force of 30,000 European troops in three divisions. The naval defences are still in a rudimentary condition. Since 1891 about £1,500,000 have been spent, but except at Saigon, and at one defensive point in Annam, the coast is virtually open, and it is bitterly admitted that Hanoi and one or two other important places could offer no resistance.

With regard to the grounding of the German steamer *Quarta*, which stranded in the Kurushima Channel near Imabari recently, the *Kobe Chronicle* says the question has arisen as to who shall be held responsible for the damage, the Osaka Shosen Kaisha, the charterer of the steamer, or the owners. It is stated as a general principle of shipping law that the damage arising out of such an accident shall be borne by the owner, the shipper of cargo, and the charterer who receives freight, in proportion of their respective interest in the vessel. The value of the *Quarta* is about 250,000 yen, and the cargo about 50,000 yen, while the freight receivable by the Shosen Kaisha is not more than 5,000 yen. Estimating the damage caused by the accident at 10,000, the loss to the Shosen Kaisha will be only about 400 yen. The owner of the steamer will thus bear the greatest loss.

CHINA'S FUTURE NEEDS.

(Daily Press, 31st May.)

We have received from the Inspector-General of Customs at Shanghai the full text of Sir ROBERT HART's suggestions to the Chinese Government concerning the rearrangement of the Land Tax, with a view to strengthening China so that she may be able to hold her own in the world. The Inspector-General commences his memorandum by stating that, though the immediate cause of the war now proceeding is the opposite policies of Japan and Russia, its real origin is the growing weakness of China—a proposition which cannot be denied. He then says that, whether the war finishes in two or three years or lasts five or six, when it does end China may have a serious difficulty to face (we think that Sir ROBERT HART might well have said "will certainly have a serious difficulty to face"), and that, to be able to secure a hearing then, and not simply obey orders, she ought not to neglect the opportunity to put her military affairs in order. To be strong, Sir ROBERT continues, a country must have funds. How, then, is China to raise the requisite funds for the purpose? This is the question which the Inspector-General sets himself to answer. At present China's revenue amounts only to about Tls. 80,000,000 annually, of which more than half is mortgaged for payment of foreign loans, indemnities, etc. The only promising suggestion for supplying the want is, in the writer's opinion, the rearrangement of the Land Tax. He shows, from an estimate of the area of China proper, and of its paying capacity, that a total Land Tax of Tls. 400,000,000 may surely be reckoned on; the late LI HUNG-CHANG, he mentions, put the figures at Tls. 600,000,000. This could be collected without in the slightest degree damaging or inconveniencing the people, Sir ROBERT HART says; and he then goes on to show a possible method of procedure. Into the details of this we need not go. The principal points in it are that, instead of all the eighteen provinces beginning simultaneously, one district in one prefecture of a province should be selected to start with, and the reorganised taxation spread gradually therefrom, three years being allowed for the whole of the eighteen provinces to be brought into order; and that special precautions are to be taken to prevent any "squeezing" whatever by the collecting magistrates or their employees. The latter, we might remark, is distinctly revolutionary for China, though Sir ROBERT HART does not write of it as if the prevention of "squeezing" would be of enormous difficulty. He is over-sanguine, we fear.

Having organised the scheme and put it into execution, China will have, by the Inspector-General's plan, four hundred million Taels annually. Sir ROBERT proceeds to set forth what could be done with this large sum. In the first place, "to secure perfect security for people and State" proper attention must be paid to military matters. To secure this, he advocates the establishment of four Army Corps, one in Chili, one in the Two Kiang, one in Hukwang, and the fourth in the Two Kwang. Each should consist of 50,000 men; and the total cost is reckoned at Tls. 27,400,000 per annum. Four military schools advocated by the writer should cost Tls. 2,000,000 a year; and another Tls. 3,000,000 are to be devoted to arms and ammunition. Thus we get a total annual expenditure of Tls. 32,400,000 on the Army. Sir ROBERT HART goes on to say:—"Yet even more important is the Navy, for with a Navy fighting might even be kept out of a country, and without it

invasion is certain." Therefore he recommends the establishment of three fleets—northern, southern, and central—each to consist of ten battleships, ten cruisers, ten destroyers, and fifty torpedo-boats. The total cost of such a Navy, with crews, he estimates, in round numbers, at Tls. 80,000,000. Then for arsenals in connection with the four Army Corps Sir ROBERT HART apportions Tls. 10,000,000 per annum. The rest of the money he distributes thus:—Tls. 160,000,000 for official salaries in connection with the Land Tax collection; Tls. 10,000,000 for Education; Tls. 1,000,000 for Post Office; Tls. 5,000,000 for Telegraphy; and Tls. 10,000,000 for Palace expenses. "The total amount thus expended," he says, "including a further sum of, say, Tls. 50,000,000 for Loan and Indemnity accounts, etc., would be Tls. 326,000,000, and the collection being Tls. 400,000,000, there would remain an annual surplus of Tls. 74,000,000, to be either deposited as a reserve fund or used for productive and beneficial expenditure."

Such is Sir ROBERT HART's scheme. In the fourth section of his Memorandum he addresses his arguments to the Chinese Government, forestalling objections to a new departure and to additional taxation. The one question he insists on is the suitability to the times of what he proposes. He says:—"Once the war ends and terms of peace are to be negotiated, Chinese interests in both East and West are certain to be thereby seriously affected. Therefore China ought not to lose a moment, but make the best use of time and opportunity to plan and carry out every work of national importance so as to be ready to hold her own should matters that concern her rights and welfare be under discussion. The times we live in show that for nations to reap advantage or avert calamity might is almost of more importance than right: the country that wants to be strong must have funds, and in China there is only this one source of Revenue, the Land Tax, which seems likely to yield enough and more than enough quickly and continuously." Those who have spent any time in the consideration of China's position in the world must, we think, agree with Sir ROBERT HART in principle. If China is not to disappear from the rank of independent nations she must, to a great extent, act on the lines recommended by him. When we say this, we do not mean that we necessarily endorse all his suggestions. For instance, we are very doubtful with regard to the necessity, or even utility, of such a Navy as he urges. The purchase of 240 war-vessels would at the present, or in the near future, be futile. China has hardly the nucleus of a Navy, and no sudden launching into vast expense will procure her one within a period of many years. If she is to have a Navy, she must build one up very gradually. With the Army, matters are different. China has the materials, if we are to believe the experts, of a very excellent Army. Moreover, she has to fear aggression on the land side. Even should Russia be heavily defeated in the present war, there will be the perpetual menace of Russia, if not still in Manchuria, at least in Mongolia, in Ili, in Chinese Turkestan. Many years, possibly hundred of years, may pass before China can resist a naval attack on her coast by an European nation. But there is no reason why she should not before long be in a position to withstand threats on her land frontier, extended though it is. This part of Sir ROBERT HART's scheme seems to us to be dictated by the soundest policy. It is no doubt a sad necessity that contact of

Western civilisation should force on China the necessity of having a large standing Army, on modern lines. But such is the fact, and it will do China immense harm to put off its recognition.

A SCARE AT MACAO.

(Daily Press, 1st June.)

There is a simple explanation of the Quixotic stories originating in the heated imagination of somebody who saw in the presence of four small Chinese war-craft in the waters of Macao a hostile demonstration against the Government of that Colony because, so the story ran, the authorities had declined to extradite the ex-Magistrate of Namhoi without the formality of the usual legal proceedings. Whether such a demand was ever preferred by the Canton Government we do not know, but we are informed that the presence of Chinese war-craft at a time when extradition proceedings were being taken against the fugitive magistrate was a purely fortuitous circumstance and not intended as a minatory act on the part of the Viceroy of Canton. The explanation of the whole matter, we learn, is that one of the Chinese gunboats in question was on her way to Pakhoi laden with treasure and had to put in at Macao because of a breakdown in her engine-room. A Superintendent of Customs was on board the gunboat, and he wired from Macao to Canton for another gunboat to replace the one disabled. Two torpedo-boats were at the same time going down to Macao with secretaries and witnesses required at the trial of the fugitive magistrate, and so it happened that four Chinese ships of war met in the waters of Macao and scared some of the members of the community into a belief that a bombardment was intended! We are credibly informed that the gunboats were practically without ammunition, and that the torpedo-boats carried no torpedos; but whether this be literally true or not, it is certain that these small craft were not equipped for any warlike purpose. The armada did not remain long, and the people of Macao are able again to sleep peacefully of nights.

JAPANESE OCCUPATION OF DALNY.

(Daily Press, 2nd June.)

It does not appear from the Japanese official telegram published in our yesterday's issue that the Russians did as much damage when they abandoned Dalny as Admiral ALEXIEFF's telegram to St. Petersburg represented. The Viceroy reported that the Russians had blown up the docks and piers to prevent the enemy from utilising them; but on occupying the place the Japanese have found that the docks and piers are uninjured with the exception of the "Great Pier," which was sunk. Since Dalny came into the possession of the Russians it is well known that immense sums of money have been expended with the object of making the terminal port of the Chinese Eastern Railway one of commanding importance in the Far East. Magnificent wharves were built to accommodate the largest ocean steamers, and every facility was provided, including three floating steam cranes capable of lifting fifty tons each, for the rapid handling of cargo. Behind the railway lines, which are brought right alongside the ship berths, roomy godowns of corrugated iron were erected, the design for these covering a floor area of 100,000 square feet. The hundred warehouses mentioned in the Japanese official despatch as being found

uninjured, no doubt, refers to these godowns on the wharves. There are two docks at Dalny. One is a granite dry dock 380 feet long, 50 feet wide at entrance and 18 feet on the sill; and the other, which we believe is not yet completed, has a length of 600 feet, a width of 90 feet at the entrance, and 30 feet on the sill. Attached to these docks are extensive repair shops. It is obvious how valuable the acquisition of Dalny with its docks and buildings practically uninjured is likely to be to the Japanese now that they have established an effective blockade of the Liaotung Peninsula south of Pitsuwo, and are investing the fortress of Port Arthur.

It is astonishing that the Russians should have left Dalny practically intact for the Japanese to walk into and possess. Perhaps, they believed the abandonment of the city to be a merely temporary expedient but that consideration does not dispel the astonishment which such a disatch as we were able to publish yesterday by the courtesy of the Japanese Consul creates. For even if the Russians did hope to speedily return and hold the place in strength, it must have been patent to the Russian commander that if the Japanese were once allowed to occupy it they would not be driven out again before they had wrecked everything likely to be of assistance to the enemy. The abandonment of Dalny represents an immense financial sacrifice on the part of Russia, for the expenditure on public works since Russia acquired the usufruct of Dalny must have amounted to many millions of dollars. The whole scheme of public buildings and improvements involved an expenditure of something like forty million dollars, and a very large part of that scheme has been carried out. A visitor to the port before the outbreak of hostilities says of this unique place: "It is a city in all senses of the word save one. It has as yet no 'people.'" But the Russian authorities entertained very sanguine expectations of the future of Dalny, for in laying out the town the European reservation was designed to accommodate 30,000 inhabitants. It was, perhaps, a wise provision, for the terminal port of a great trunk line of railway ought to develop into a big city very rapidly, but Russia's withering attitude towards commercial rivalry, we fear, would always keep it pretty much in the same stage of development as Vladivostok. It would be profitless to speculate on the future of the Manchurian railway and its terminal port at the present stage of the war. These interesting questions must remain until hostilities have ceased.

THE TIBETAN QUESTION.

(Daily Press, 3rd June.)

The little war with Tibet into which we have been forced by the hostile attitude of the natives and the warlike reception accorded to the British mission to the Dalai Lama, seems to be developing into an obstinate contest to prevent them reaching Lhasa. It was, of course, well known that the Tibetan authorities would refuse leave for Colonel YOUNGHUSBAND to enter Lhasa, but it was hoped that a resolute demeanour and a steady persistence in a policy necessitated by continued slights would bring even the Lamas to their senses. But it seems that once more we had reckoned without the host. The dense ignorance which wraps the Lhasa Lamas as with a garment made them blind to the peril which they were courting in thus continually persevering in a course of slights which no self-respecting Power, however well satisfied

as to the righteousness of its own intentions, could long tolerate. Moreover, the Indian Government were credibly informed that Muscovite intrigue was not only steadily undermining Chinese influence at Lhasa, but that it was also preparing the way for Russian predominance in a state on the Indian frontier which should naturally fall within the scope of British influence. That intrigue must have gone far, for where, otherwise, could the Tibetans have procured their arms and ammunition?

When the Mission was first despatched by Lord CURZON—and the wisdom of sending it is now generally undisputed except by a few political cranks, who would object to any move on principle—it was hoped that the Tibetans would soon recognise its pacific character, that the Dalai Lama would on its arrival in the country be willing to receive it, and that the Chinese Amban at Lhasa would afford all the assistance he could to its head. In most of these conclusions we have proved to be mistaken. The Tibetans themselves at first exhibited a hostile front, though subsequently many have come to see that the object of the Mission is really a friendly one, and that no aggression was ever intended. But the Lamas have evidently been thoroughly poisoned by Russian and, perhaps, also Chinese, misrepresentations, and they cling with a tenacity worthy of a better cause to the impression that the British advance is a menace to their power, and a threat to the independence of the country. This impression it will be difficult to remove, as the Chinese Amban has apparently gone out of his way to defame the British Mission. That misrepresentation is likely to die hard, and the British Government have no doubt found occasion to address some awkward questions on the point to the Imperial Chinese Government. The advice given by the Amban was at once gratuitous and unfriendly. They have therefore had good reason to complain of the manner in which their effort to bring about improved relations with Tibet has been received at Peking.

It is sincerely to be hoped that there will be no counsels of weakness in the Foreign and Indian Offices on this question. We have been bearded, insulted, defied, and injured by the Lamas. We have been put to much needless expense, we have lost many valuable lives by the mingled distrust and treachery with which we have been faced over this question, and we think that the time for concession or even toleration has wholly gone by. The eyes of the entire Eastern world are upon us, and as we deal with the truculent Lamas so we may expect to be met in the future by other Powers, such as China. If we are to get out of this little war with credit we must be firm and just, just to our own prestige and considerate for our reputation among the frontier tribes on our Indian Empire. We can no longer afford to receive apologies and to acquiesce in requests that the Mission may stop short in its progress towards the sacred city of Lhasa. We must not only press on to that jealously guarded capital, but we must insist upon the Mission being personally received by the Dalai Lama, as any Mission from the head of a great Power to an inferior State should be received, with all honour and deference. We should also require, in the future, that the Dalai Lama should place himself under the protectorate of the EMPEROR OF INDIA, and that a representative of His Imperial Majesty should be allowed to reside in Lhasa or in some convenient centre in Tibet. We should, moreover, require from the Government of Peking an apology for the conduct of the Chinese Amban, and the

withdrawal of that official from Tibet, together with all pretensions to suzerainty, which they can neither render effective nor exercise with discretion. In this way can we give the best answer alike to the secret intriguing of Russia, the treacherous weakness of the Chinese Representative in Tibet, and the insolent defiance exhibited by the Lamas. Now that the sword has been appealed to it should only be sheathed by the victor on terms consistent with his dignity and consistent with the interests of the great Indian Empire.

HONGKONG JOTTINGS.

(Daily Press 30th May.)

A Manila newspaper has been trying to show that the Philippine capital is an excellent place to live in, and after reading its remarks one is inclined to wonder why people come up to Hongkong from Manila to recruit. Certainly the character given to this Island by our present Medical Officer of Health in his just published report is not alluring. Dr. Pearce is speaking, of course, of Hongkong in the summer months. He is obliged to state that the condition of the atmosphere in the City of Victoria during these months is very depressing, owing to the humidity and heat combined. And further, the City's position on the north side of the Island and at the foot of the hills cuts it off from the winds prevailing in the hot season, while the steep site, the narrow streets, the high buildings and heavy verandahs all tend to produce stagnation when ventilation is most desirable. Not a pleasant picture, but a true one, I fear. Yet, if we judge by vital statistics, Hongkong is not an unhealthy city for the Far East. Apart from the bracing effects of the cold season, I am inclined to attribute the favourable health figures to two causes. The first is that the Chinese population is transitory to a great extent and does not stay here to die; and the second, that the European community is in the habit of taking occasional holidays at home, even though it has become more of a residential community than it used to be. For these two reasons, it seems to me, the bad effects of our depressing and unhealthy summer are not allowed full influence on the vital statistics.

A local resident writes me a lengthy letter on the vexed question of the Great Unregistered. The Government is obstinately adverse to the registration of domestic servants, but, he hopes, as we all do, for its conversion. Meanwhile, however, my correspondent suggests that some improvement is desirable in regard to the licensing of chair and ricksha-coolies. The licence which the coolie obtains at a trifling expense from the Police, permits the coolie to ply for hire with a numbered ricksha or chair; but this, my correspondent points out, does not prevent the coolie from accepting any other employment that might be offered to him. Probably in eight cases out of ten the bearers of private chairs are holders of licences enabling them to ply for hire with a numbered public chair, and it not infrequently happens that considerable annoyance and inconvenience is caused to the man who regards himself as the coolie's employer. But owing to the scarcity of coolies willing to undertake this work, there is, as my correspondent says, a constant demand for chair-bearers, "and employers are only too pleased to get them on whatever terms and conditions the coolies stipulate." They are certainly well paid—overpaid—but complaints of the insolence and independence of the coolie are plentiful. A coolie, however, has no right to leave his employ without notice, and I may remind my correspondent that an employer has his remedy in the police court. What my correspondent would like to see is that a licence issued to a coolie to enable him to ply for hire on the street should restrict him to that employment; if he wanted to enter private employ he should be required to take out a special licence, and no coolie should be allowed to take out both licences concurrently. Whether this suggestion thrown out is feasible without special legislative enactment I must leave for the consideration of the powers that be, but of the need and utility of some such system there can be no two opinions.

May I offer a suggestion to the P.W.D.? In Wyndham Street, just by the Police Station, there is a long point of winding road that might very nicely be cut off by a flight of steps in the same manner as the stairs leading from Queen's Road to the upper end of Battery Path. This would be a great improvement.

I see that a correspondent in your "water-front contemporary" has challenged "Englishman's" statements about the maltreatment of English sailors by the Police. Whatever be the merits of this particular case, there can be little doubt that the Police are long-suffering in dealing with European breakers of the peace. Should occasion arise they can, it is true, be very strenuous in their ways; but I have never seen a case yet in Hongkong of needless force or cruelty having been used in the arrest of offenders. If assistance is offered at home to the Police, the Magistrate generally takes the worst view of the case and passes sentence accordingly.

It is always comforting in Hongkong to reflect on the statement that "the worst smells are those that one can't smell"—worst for the health, that is to say. For certainly in Hongkong the smells that one can smell are fearful. In the past week, before the advent of the rain, they have been particularly virulent. To walk along any of our main roads, not to mention any bye-streets, has been a terrible trial to anyone in the slightest degree sensitive. It would really be difficult to say that a Chinese town could be more unpleasant to the nose. I remember once walking through the streets of Canton and suddenly striking a comparatively pleasant scent after what I had been passing through. It turned out to be rising from a basket of onions being carried by a coolie in front of me! I often wish now that I had an onion with me in Queen's Road. But happily the rains will bring relief.

When the Police take over the old Bay View Hotel as a station again they will find there as a relic one of the turtles which were for several years in a small pond beside the house. There used to be two; one remains, and it seems to feel very much the loss of its companion, for it swims around the narrow sphere of its existence with untiring fins. It would almost be charity to make a dish of turtle soup out of the creature.

After turtles, let us talk about glowworms. I have heard it said that one never sees a glow-worm in Hongkong, and that the little phosphorescent lights one may occasionally see in the verdant hillslopes at night are the lights of fireflies. I am not a naturalist, and so cannot dispute a statement so confidently made. If I consult a text-book it tells me merely that a glow-worm is a lampyrid beetle, as *Lampyris noctiluca* or *L. splendida* of Europe, the female of which is wingless, somewhat wormlike, and displays from the abdomen a green light that attracts the less phosphorescent males. It is stated too that the larvae are also luminous. In the United States the luminous larva of a firefly is called a glowworm. Perhaps some local naturalist will kindly say whether it is the American or European glowworm we have in Hongkong. The other night I saw one of the prettiest sights of the kind I have seen anywhere. In a mossgrown bank rising from one of the yet untrained nullahs on the hill I saw quite fifty of these little lights studding a space of about a yard square.

At low tides, when Causeway Bay and the neighbourhood of the Bowrington Canal are high-and-dry, cockle hunters have a fine time. Not satisfied with the large area laid bare they wade out knee-deep, digging and poking away with their iron hooks, or feeling for shells with claw-like hands. Great merriment is caused over a stranded jelly-fish. These poor fishing folk, if not addicted to cramp, have a healthy means of gaining a livelihood. It must be fairly profitable too, or so many Chinese would not be engaged at it.

BANYAN.

THE WAR.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.]

RUSSIANS SUCCOUR PORT ARTHUR.

LONDON, 31st May.

The Russians are reported south of Wafungtien making an endeavour to succour Port Arthur while General Kondratovitch checks the Japanese advance at Fenghuancheng.

RUSSIANS SHORT OF SUPPLIES.

LONDON, 1st June.

It is reported that extreme scarcity of provisions prevails at Liaoyang.

At present there are no indications of any intention on the part of the Russian forces to move southward.

[REUTER'S SERVICE.]

JAPANESE PRISONERS AT TOMSK.

LONDON, 31st May.

Two hundred and sixty-eight Japanese prisoners have arrived at Tomsk, largely composed of Naval men captured from the Port Arthur blocking steamers. The officers receive an allowance of from 50 to 75 roubles per month and the men 16 kopeks per day. Russian visitors to the camp are surprised at the men's cleanliness and neatness.

JAPANESE OFFICIAL DESPATCHES.

THE BATTLE OF NANSHAN.

Tokyo, 29th May.

"General Oku reports that in the attack on Nanshan, the Fourth Division formed the right wing, the Third Division the left wing, and the First Division the middle. The enemy consisted of one division of field army, two batteries of field artillery, besides fortress artillery and marines. The Fourth Division, taking an advantage on the enemy's left wing, which was weakened by bombardment of our fleet from Kinchow Bay, finally succeeded in carrying the enemy's position. The other division immediately followed whereupon the enemy retreated in confusion, burning magazines at Tafangshin. The trophies were 68 guns, and 10 machine-guns, among many others. Our casualties were about 3,500. The enemy left over 500 corpses on the field."

THE JAPANESE OCCUPATION OF DALNY.

Tokyo, May 31.

General Oku reports that a detachment occupied Dalny on May 30. Over 100 warehouses and barracks, besides the telegraph offices and the railway station were found uninjured. Over 200 railway cars are available for use; but all small railway bridges in the neighbourhood have been destroyed. The docks and piers are uninjured, except the great pier, which was sunk. The steam launches were also sunk at the mouth of the dock.

CASUALTIES AND CAPTURES AT CHULIENCHENG.

In addition to the 28 guns taken at the Yalu battle, the Japanese made very great captures of stores, ammunition, etc. The following is a summary of the spoils enumerated in General Kuroki's report:—Twenty-one 3-inch quick-firing field guns; nineteen ammunition waggons; and 1,417 shells. Eight other machine-guns and eight ammunition waggons for the same; and 37,300 shells. One hundred and twenty-one rifles and fifty ammunition waggons; 353,005 bullets. Sixty-three horses; ten commissariat waggons and 53 harnessing appliances; 694 cloth overcoats; 550 fur overcoats; 541 tents; 20 sundries. At Fenghuangcheng: 357 shells for 63½ metre mountain guns; 183,000 rifle bullets; 150 harness appliances; 1,720 overcoats; 40,708 loaves of black bread; 1,736 koku of Indian corn; 5,000 Manchurian bean-cakes; carpen-

ters' tools, telegraphic apparatus, and sundry other articles.

The Japanese casualties have been officially returned at five officers and 218 rank-and-file killed, and 33 officers and 783 men wounded, making the total casualties 1,039. They buried 1,363 Russians killed, while 18 officers and 595 men were taken prisoners.

COREA CANCELS RUSSIAN PRIVILEGES.

An Extra to the Korean *Official Gazette* was issued at Seoul on the 18th instant announcing that all the Treaties and Agreements now existing between Corea and Russia have been annulled and have ceased to exist on the part of Corea. The Extra further announces that of the charters granted to Russian subjects, individuals or companies, which are still in force, those considered by the Korean Government to be unobjectionable will be considered binding as hitherto. The charters for the cutting of timber and forest making in the Tumen and Yalu districts and on Ulleung Island were originally granted to individuals, but in practice the Russian Government authorities are conducting the business, and they not only ignore the terms of the charters, but take an aggressive attitude. For these reasons, the charters in question are declared annulled and invalid.

LONDON PRESS ON THE KINCHOW VICTORY.

The Japanese victory at Kinchow is hailed by the London Press as establishing an even stronger claim than the Yalu victory to superiority on land as well as on sea, since the Russians at Kinchow had ample time to prepare the defences. The *Daily Telegraph* says the victory is one of the most perfect examples possible of how fighting ought to be conducted, and of qualities which go to make an almost ideal Army. The Japanese soldier is the compeer of the proudest European soldiery. The *Standard* says the valour of the Japanese soldiers has again refused to recognise any obstacle as insurmountable.

FIRING ON A TRAIN.

From Chefoo comes a statement by Chinese, of whom 80 were in the last train that travelled from Port Arthur northwards. They allege that the train had on board some 220 (probably 200) civil officials from Port Arthur. At about 9 a.m. it reached Pulantien, and was there fired upon by Japanese, one of the drivers being hit in the leg. After a brief pause the train resumed its journey. This, the Chinese add, was the last train that travelled over the line. If so, it was also the train concerning which the Russians are now attempting to prefer a Red Cross complaint. The train had on board over two hundred civil officials. It may also have had some wounded or sick. Very likely. But its use of the Red-Cross flag under such circumstances was an outrage. Besides, it was not flying when the Japanese fired on it. What seems pretty plain is that the train was proceeding on its way without any suspicion whatever of attack. It was an ordinary train with a miscellaneous mob of passengers, among them being some invalids. When fired on, recourse was had to the red flag as a means of escape. That would be bad enough, but the attempt to turn the tables and convict the Japanese of an outrage is quite contemptible. The Japanese are not firing on Red Cross flags. They are not murdering and mutilating Russian prisoners. They are behaving with marked humanity.—*Japan Mail*.

The Douglas s.s. *Haiching*, with the s.s. *Thales* (belonging to the same company) in tow, returned to Hongkong yesterday morning at six o'clock. The *Thales* left Foochow on the 29th ult., and Swatow on the 31st. That night, the 31st, when some six miles west-south of Breaker Point, at seven o'clock, the quadrant of the high pressure valve gear broke, disabling the vessel. She rocked helplessly on the more-or-less still waters for about twelve hours before the *Haiching*, steaming in the opposite direction, hove in sight. Capt. Robson of the *Thales* promptly signalled the state of affairs to Capt. Hodgins of the *Haiching*, and a tow line soon connected the two steamers. Luckily the weather kept fine, a favourable wind blowing from the north-east. The *Haiching* has 1,000 tons of cargo on board for coast ports, and the *Thales* brought 500 tons of cargo down for this port.

SUPREME COURT.

Thursday, 2nd June.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR WILLIAM M.
GOODMAN (CHIEF JUSTICE).

THE GRANVILLE SHARP WILL CASE

This was a case between Edmund Hamilton Sharp, James Buchanan, Herbert Sharp, Robert Bentham and Ellen Lydia Bentham, his wife, John Nugent Wells and Harriet Elizabeth Wells, his wife (plaintiffs), the Attorney General of the Colony of Hongkong, the Right Reverend Joseph Charles Hoare, D.D., the Reverend Frederick Trench Johnson, M.A., and the Reverend Charles Herbert Hickling (defendants).

His Lordship in the course of his judgment said:—This was an originating summons taken out by the above named plaintiffs against the above named defendants. The defendants (except the Attorney-General) were together with the plaintiff Edmund Hamilton Sharp appointed by the will and codicil of Granville Sharp, deceased, the committee and trustees of a hospital referred to by him in such will and codicil; and the summons was taken out for the determination of certain questions mentioned therein. The summons asks:—

1. That an enquiry may be made as to the nature, scope and size of the hospital directed by the said will and codicil to be erected and maintained in Hongkong, and that if necessary a scheme may be settled with respect thereto.

2. That an enquiry may be made as to the amount required for the erection of the said hospital, according to the true construction of the said will and codicil, or the scheme to be settled as aforesaid, and in what manner the moneys for that purpose should be provided out of the testator's estate.

3. That the question may be determined whether or not, according to the true construction of the said will and codicil, an endowment fund ought to be provided for the said hospital, and, if so, of what amount, and that directions may be given as to the manner in which the same should be provided out of the testator's estate and how the same should be invested and dealt with.

4. And if the purposes aforesaid do not exhaust the testator's residuary estate, then that it may be determined whether the unexhausted portion of the residue is applicable to charitable purposes generally, and, if so, of what nature and in what locality, and that if necessary a scheme may be settled for effecting such general charitable purposes.

5. And if the Court shall determine that such unexhausted portion is not applicable to general charitable purposes, then that the question may be determined whether such unexhausted portion belongs to the next of kin of the testator according to the statutes for the distribution of the estates of intestates, and in what shares and to whom and for what interests, such unexhausted portion belongs.

6. And if the last foregoing question should be determined in the affirmative, then that an enquiry may be made who were the next of kin (according to the said statutes for the distribution of intestates' estates) of the said testator living at the time of his death, and whether any of them are since dead and, if so, who are their respective legal personal representatives.

7. That directions may be given to the plaintiffs Edmund Hamilton Sharp and James Buchanan as executors and trustees of the said will and codicil as to whether they should retain or realise the leasehold estate of the said testator or any part thereof.

8. That the costs of and incidental to this application and the consequent enquiries thereunder may be provided for.

The defendant, the Attorney-General of Hongkong, was sued as representing the Crown; the defendants, the Right Rev. Joseph Charles Hoare, the Rev. Frederick Trench Johnson and the Rev. Charles Herbert Hickling were sued as respectively holding, for the time being, the respective offices of Bishop of the Diocese, Colonial Chaplain, and Minister of the Union Church, and as therefore forming with the plaintiffs, Edmund Hamilton Sharp and

James Buchanan, the committee of the hospital which is referred to in the testator's will. No appearance was entered by the three last defendants, that is to say, by the Right Reverend the Bishop, the Chaplain of St. John's Cathedral Church, and the Minister of the Union Church, who were appointed on the Committee by virtue of their offices, and it appears they are content to abide by the decision of the court.

The Attorney-General appeared in person; Mr. Slade appeared for the at present sole executor, Edmund Hamilton Sharp, and for James Buchanan, a trustee of the will, who is however not an executor. Mr. Pollock, K.C., appeared for the alleged next of kin of the testator, namely, Edmund Hamilton Sharp (the testator's brother), and the children of the testator's deceased brother, Frederick Sharp, namely, Herbert Sharp, Ellen Lydia Bentham, and Harriet Elizabeth Wells, whose husbands are joined as plaintiffs.

The matter was argued before me on the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th May, 1904, when I reserved my decision. It will conduce to clearness if I now state the facts out of which the difficulty has arisen. They are as follows:—The late Granville Sharp, for many years a resident of Hongkong, died while on a visit to England on 16th August, 1899. He left a will, dated 7th June, 1896, and a codicil, dated the 13th October, 1897. By his will, he appointed four executors, viz.:—His brother, Edmund Hamilton Sharp, Edmund Sharp (his cousin), Sotheby Godfrey Bird, and Alexander Ross; and he appointed these executors trustees of his will. The said Edmund Sharp died before the testator, and Alexander Ross did not prove the will, or act in any way as executor or trustee. Edmund Hamilton Sharp proved the will and probate was granted to him on 22nd December, 1899. Subsequently, on 12th July, 1900, the said S. G. Bird also proved the will, but afterwards, on 28th November, 1902, he retired from the executorship and trusts of the will, and one James Buchanan was, thereupon, appointed a trustee in his place. After giving certain legacies amounting to some £1,600 to various friends and relations and also certain life annuities amounting in all to some £300, a year to various relations, all of whom are now over seventy years of age, the testator gave the residue of his estate in trust for the erection and maintenance of a hospital at Mount Kellett in this Colony, to be, to quote his words, "for the glory of God and the good of men, in loving memory of my sainted wife, Matilda Lincoln, the same to be called Matilda Hospital." When he made his will he wished the hospital to be built on the Homestead Lot, i.e., Rural Building Lot, No. 76, at Mount Kellett, where his wife and he had long resided. But, in his codicil, he expresses himself as not satisfied with that site and states that he thinks "a position of more retirement and perhaps equal usefulness can be found further to the south of or on Mount Kellett."

It may be well to set out the passages in the will and codicil relating to this matter *verbatim*. The extract from the will is as follows:—"I give and bequeath the residue of my estate, subject to the operation and effect of any codicils, which may be hereunto hereafter added, and as and when the estate can be best realised to advantage, in trust for the purpose of the erection and maintenance upon the 'Homestead' lot, where we so long resided, (Rural Building Lot No. 76) at 'Mount Kellett Ridge,' Hongkong, of a hospital to the glory of God, and the good of men; in loving memory of my sainted wife Matilda Lincoln, the same to be called 'Matilda Hospital.' It is intended that special instructions, as to the erection, maintenance, and government of the hospital be added at the end of this will, indeed the testator hopes himself to take some part in its preparation."

It seems, however, that the only instructions given are those mentioned in the codicil and contained in the following extract therefrom:—"With regard to the site named for the Peak Hospital, I have since become much dissatisfied therewith, and I think that a position of more retirement and perhaps equal usefulness, can be found further to the south of, or on Mount Kellett. I wish the hospital to be quite self-supporting and that my executors, including my

brother, should be members of the committee, as also the Bishop of the Diocese, the Colonial Chaplain and the minister of the Union Church and their successors in office for all time in their said qualities. I wish that monthly meetings of the committee shall be held. I desire that the hospital shall in all things be considered to be established as an absolutely religious and evangelistic institution. That religious services be held twice daily and that every effort be made to direct the minds of the patients to the Gospel. So far as is possible, I wish that services rendered to the hospital should—like its foundation—be wholly gratuitous and without reward—possibly by a rotation of officers—that no religious services should be paid for and that the Institution be for the glory of God and the good of man and not for the glory of the medical profession in any way. That it be for the benefit, care and happiness of patients primarily who are helpless and not for that either of superintending or general officers of the profession, nurses or subordinate persons who may be employed for salaries or wages, and emphatically that the hospital be for the poor, the helpless, the forsaken and for him who is alone and desolate. I desire that the office of superintending surgeon be in the hands of the committee and that the committee shall be and I hereby constitute them trustees. I wish that different classes be provided for and that the hospital be reserved for British, American and European patients, with some very limited discretion for the directors, but excluding Chinese, Portuguese and Japanese, who are well able to make arrangements for hospital accommodation on the hills if they see fit, and for whom this hospital would be far too limited. I wish the nursing sisters to be wholly British and that they should be encouraged by suitable reward, in the discretion of the committee, to qualify themselves thoroughly in cooking and to obtain degrees therefor upon chemical principles. I wish that the building be erected on such a scale only that it may be able to sustain itself and that the sisters may be able, as a reward for diligence and in the committee's discretion, to have one year's holiday in every five years, or still better two holidays of six months each in every five years, on full pay in each case. I hope that it may be found absolutely unnecessary at any time during the continuance of this institution to appeal to the public in any way for funds for its maintenance, as there are already in Hongkong far too many of such. If any one desires either to endow the hospital with funds under the previous existing conditions or to leave legacies for its use, these should be thankfully accepted as increasing the means of its usefulness, but no advertisement or public announcement, by printing or in any other way, should at any time be made, except so far as being recorded in the minutes and proceedings of the hospital. The only announcement should be thus,—engraved in plain black, upon a white marble stone, at the entrance:—"To the glory of God and for the good of man and in most loving memory of Matilda, resident in this Colony from 1858 to 1893, who died full of love for every one, on the 22nd August of the latter year." I wish that, in the carrying on of this hospital, the least possible use may be made of drugs, but that all sanitary and other precautions may be taken and that upon these and the healing processes of nature by God's assistance, the greatest reliance may be placed. I wish my friends, Messrs. Denison and Ram, archbishops of Hongkong, to be employed by my executors, if they see fit, and as the removal of the site of the hospital from that now occupied by the Homestead has been determined upon mainly in the interest of the owners of the 'Mount' opposite, I trust that they will request Messrs. Palmer and Turner, their architects, to allow Denison and Ram an inspection, especially of the basement of their own new building, which I much admire, with a view to the approximation of my basement therewith."

The value of the estate was proved as under one million and thirty thousand dollars. The property consisted, chiefly, of leaseholds in this Colony, which were valued, for Probate purposes, by Messrs. Denison and Ram on 30th November, 1899, at \$1,053,250.00; the difference between that amount and the amount on which Probate duty was paid being made up by

some additions for other personal property and certain deductions for debts due from the estate, at the time of the testator's death. The testator had no wish to have his estate sold and wound up with undue haste. He knew as well as any one that, in Hongkong, land varies greatly in value from time to time, and that to place a large number of leaseholds on the market for sale at one and the same time, might have an adverse influence on the prices obtainable. He, however, wished suitable opportunities to be taken to dispose of the properties so as to close the estate. After cautioning his executors "against any hasty attempt to realise the property for which a fitting time must be carefully selected," he says, later on in his will (dated, as before stated, 7th June, 1896):—

"I hereby sanction and approve the appropriation for five years by the executor who shall be resident in Hongkong and conduct the management of my estate, of the sum of \$1,000 per annum as a remuneration and two hundred dollars per annum for expenses of locomotion. Should the estate not be wound up during this period I sanction and approve the appropriation for two years further of one thousand dollars per annum, and for yet another three years of seven hundred and fifty dollars per annum; the object being kept in view to avail of opportunities without any undue haste to dispose of the property and close the estate. If my life is spared, I may be able to do something towards this end, but there appears at present to be nothing in view but development."

I mention these directions of the testator, because it appears that, since his death, the leaseholds have appreciated in value in a remarkable manner. According to a valuation made by Messrs. Linstead and Davis and Messrs. Denison and Ram, conjointly, in January, 1904, the value of the leasehold property was \$1,969,512 and, taking into account other sums, it has been estimated that on 14th March, 1904, the total value of the estate was \$2,219,177. The debts, general, and testamentary expenses, and most of the legacies have been paid. Provision has been made, I understand, for the deferred legacies and the annuities, and it is contended on behalf of the next of kin that the clear residue is far in excess of the amount reasonably required to erect and maintain the hospital contemplated by the testator. With regard to that hospital, it seems that on 30th March, 1901, Rural Building Lot, No. 16, on Mount Kellett, in the Peak District of this Colony, was purchased as a site for its erection at a cost of \$70,000, which sum has been paid out of the estate. The erection is being proceeded with in accordance with plans and a specification prepared by Messrs. Palmer and Turner, architects and surveyors of this Colony, and under their supervision. The contract for completion, including residences for the House Surgeon and Nurses, Mortuary, and all necessary buildings and outhouses and servants' and coolie quarters, as per plans, amounts to \$250,000.

When to these amounts of \$70,000 and \$250,000 is added all other expenditure for the proper equipment, furnishing, fitting, surgical instruments, necessities for the dispensary, and other requisites, it is estimated, according to the affidavits filed, that the total cost will amount to \$460,088, leaving only further provision to be made for maintenance. According to the estimates mentioned in the affidavit of Mr. Edmund Hamilton Sharp the at present sole executor (and brother) of the testator, the cost of such maintenance of a hospital depends in a great degree upon its size. In the present case, it is being erected on a scale to accommodate thirty beds which, I am informed, is the estimated maximum which could, in the opinion of the original, as well as of the present, trustees, be required in the Colony for a hospital of such a nature as that indicated by the testator. The present Trustees include the Bishop of Victoria, the Chaplain of S. John's Cathedral Church (whom I have no doubt the testator meant when he spoke of the Colonial Chaplain, a post no longer in existence at the date of the will), and the minister of Union Church; and they state that, in their opinion, "a hospital containing thirty beds for the reception of patients would be sufficient to carry into effect the charitable intentions of the testator, and that, under ordinary circumstances, many of the said beds would be

unoccupied by patients coming within the classes intended to be benefited by the testator."

In the 21st paragraph of the affidavit of Mr. Edmund Hamilton Sharp, he states that it is estimated that the hospital will be completed and ready for the reception of patients on or about the 1st August, 1906 provided no unforeseen delays occur in the meantime. According to the estimated value of the estate by that time, there will be apparently a very large surplus after making ample provision for all cost of erecting and maintaining the hospital now being erected at Mount Kellett. The next of kin contend that there is a resulting trust for them of such surplus, unless the Court should hold that such unexhausted portion must be applied to charitable purposes in accordance with the doctrine of *cy-pres*.

The Attorney-General, on the other hand, without admitting that the residue is necessarily larger than the expansion and growing needs of the hospital may at some future time require, argued that, in any case, this residue having been given absolutely and unconditionally to charity, must be devoted to some charitable purpose on the ground that "once a charity always a charity," and that the next of kin cannot take and can never answer to the description of those whom the testator intended to benefit by the gift of this residue. He, moreover, pointed out that the testator gave legacies or annuities to those of his next of kin whom he intended to benefit and then gave away the residue to charity.

The position of the Attorney-General in cases of this kind, as law officer of the Crown, is thus stated by Lord Macnaghten, in the recent cases of *Wallis v. The Solicitor-General of New Zealand*, (1903), Appeal Cases, p.p. 181 and 182:—

"It is the province of the Crown as *paterfamilias* to enforce the execution of charitable trusts, and it has always been recognised as the duty of the law officers of the Crown to intervene for the purpose of protecting charities and affording advice and assistance to the Court in the administration of charitable trusts." It was for this reason that the Attorney-General was, very properly, made a party to these proceedings. I was specially asked by the parties to express my opinion on the following point of law, viz.:—Assuming that, at the date of the testator's death, his residuary estate bequeathed by his will and codicil was more than sufficient to provide for the erection and maintenance of the hospital therein mentioned, ought the surplus to be devoted to charity and *cy-pres* doctrine to be applied, or would there be a resulting trust for the next of kin as regards such surplus?

Of course, until proper enquiry has been made, I am not in a position to say whether the residue is more than sufficient for the present and future needs of the hospital, having regard to the progressive character of this Colony and the great increase of population which has taken place within the last five and twenty years and which seems likely to continue. At the date of the testator's death a dollar was, I find, worth a trifle under two shillings, and when his will was proved, his entire estate was sworn at what was equivalent to about one hundred thousand pounds sterling, speaking roughly.

This is the first time I have heard of a hospital having too much money; one is more familiar with a different complaint. But assuming for the purposes of the legal question which all parties asked me to decide, that the residue is more than sufficient for the erection and maintenance of the particular hospital specified by the testator conducted as nearly as is practicable upon the lines indicated by him, I will proceed to consider whether the next of kin would be entitled to the surplus or whether it must be devoted to charitable purposes in accordance with the *cy-pres* doctrine, that is to say, in accordance with the principle of applying property as nearly as possible according to the donor's intentions when these intentions cannot be exactly carried out, with regard to the whole of such property. The law of this Colony in such matters is practically the same as that of England. But we have here no Board of Charity Commissioners to assist us, and we have no Statutes of Mortmain, which are referred to in so many of the English cases, and which in England prevented leasehold property (*inter alia*) from being validly bequeathed for

charitable purposes. In Hongkong, it is quite competent for a testator to bequeath his leaseholds for such purposes, and he can, also, as in England, if he chooses, leave nothing, or as little as he pleases, to his next of kin, and bequeath the whole or any part of his estate to charity, leaving his nearest relative unprovided for. By English law, unlike that of some other countries, apart from special contract, a man can, by will, bequeath his whole real and personal estate to strangers even though he should leave a wife and children. In the present case the testator was a widower and had no children. I merely mention this because, however natural it may be to sympathise with those next of kin who might, not unreasonably, have hoped to receive larger benefits under the direct testamentary dispositions of the deceased, no such considerations can have any weight with the Court in deciding the law in the present case. That must be decided upon such authorities as are available.

There have been a great number of cases decided in the English Courts extending back many years, but although some of these are not very unlike the present case, I am not aware of any one exactly similar to it in every respect. This is the less surprising because much depends on the precise wording of the particular instrument under which the charitable trust arises, and this wording differs in different wills. One must endeavour to arrive at the right principle to apply in each particular case. It was, for instance, established in the case of *Thetford School*, (reported 8. Coke's Reports, p. 130) so long ago as 1609, that where land, at the time of the will of the value of £35 a year, had been devised to certain persons for certain charitable purposes, the objects of the charity took the benefit of the surplus where the rent rose to £100 a year. In that case the testator had allotted so much for the maintenance of a preacher four days in the year and of a master and usher of a free Grammar School and of certain poor people, and had specified a certain sum for each, amounting in all to £35 per annum. But when, later on, the value of the property rose, it was held that the amounts specified should be increased and that the trustees took no part of the increase to their own use.

From that time to the present day, there has been a long series of cases which have established by degrees certain general principles. One of those principles seems to be that where a testator has devoted property to some charitable purpose, but owing to some impediment, either of law, or of the absence of consent of some person or persons, or the default of some expected set of circumstances, the Court must decide whether the testator had only a particular intention or whether, beyond that, there was a general intention of charity. In the latter case, the failure of the particular intention has let in the general intention, and the Court has applied the fund *cy-pres*.

After quoting some cases illustrating this principle His Lordship proceeded—Turning now to the will and codicil of Mr. Granville Sharp, it is clear that he gave the whole of the residue of his estate in trust for the purpose of the erection and maintenance of a hospital to the glory of God, and the good of men in loving memory of his wife. His codicil states that he wishes it to be for the benefit, care, and happiness of patients primarily who are helpless, and he adds that it is emphatically "to be for the poor, the helpless, the forsaken, and for him who is alone and desolate." He also adds that he wished "the hospital to be reserved for British, American and European patients, only." Now, to adopt a method of reasoning similar to that of Mr. Justice Kay, in the case of the Shoreditch soup-kitchen and cottage hospital, may it not be said:—Now, obviously, on the face of the will and codicil the persons intended to be benefited are those for whose use and benefit the hospital was designed. Who are they? Certainly, primarily, the poor, the helpless, the forsaken, and those who are alone and desolate among the British, American, and European sick in Hongkong: "therefore an intention to benefit that class of persons by providing them with a hospital may be treated as the paramount intention of the testator." But, assuming that when this has been done, there should be a surplus over; surely when we see a benevolent intention of benefiting a certain class or number of people

who come within the ordinary definition of objects of charity and we find that the particular mode the testator contemplated of doing this does not exhaust all the funds he gave to trustees for his charitable purpose, ought not the Court to say the "paramount intention" was charity, that the money was ear-marked, so to speak, as charity money for the poor, helpless, and desolate sick, in Hongkong, of the nationalities mentioned? Is it not then the duty of the Court, favouring charity as the Court always does, to provide another mode, on the *cy-pres* principle, of applying such surplus for the benefit of the objects of the testator's benevolence? For instance, as the testator, in his codicil, said he wished that "in carrying on the hospital the least possible use might be made of drugs," and expressed his faith in the healing processes of nature, a convalescent home in connection with the hospital might be suggested where patients might, in the Peak air, gain a more complete restoration to health. I take the first instance that occurs to me; but assuming there should prove to be a surplus after due provision for the hospital is made, and assuming that such surplus must be used for charitable purposes in accordance with the *cy-pres* doctrine, there would, no doubt, have to be an enquiry as to the best method of dealing with that surplus.

It was, however, urged for the next of kin that the testator manifested no general intention in favour of charity but simply an intention to erect and maintain a particular charitable institution, of a particular class, for a particular purpose, and for particular persons; and that there was nothing in the will or codicil to indicate any general intention of charity. I am, however, of opinion that reasoning in the way Mr. Justice Kay and the Lords Justices reasoned in *Biscoe and Jackson* (the *Shoreditch* case) the general paramount intention of the testator was to benefit the poor, desolate people I have mentioned, although he specified the particular way in which he wished it done. In the course of his judgment, in the case of *Mayor of Lyons v. Advocate-General of Bengal*, decided by the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, in 1876, *Law Reports, 1 Appeal Cases, p. 91*, Sir Montague Smith, speaking of the *cy-pres* doctrine as applied to charitable bequests, says at p. 113:—"The principle on which the doctrine rests appears to be that the Court treats charity in the abstract as the substance of the gift and the particular disposition as the mode, so that, in the eye of the Court, the gift, notwithstanding the particular disposition may not be capable of execution, subsists, as a legacy which never fails and cannot lapse. This seems to be what Lord Eldon understood to be the effect of the decisions from the following passage of his judgment in *Mills v. Farmer*. "With regard to charity, therefore, without going through all the cases which I examined with great diligence in *Moggridge v. Thackwell*, a case that, bound by precedent, I decided as much against my inclination as any act of my judicial life, I consider it now established that although the mode in which a legacy is to take effect is in many cases with regard to an individual legatee considered as of the substance of the legacy, where a legacy is given so as to denote that charity is the legatee, the Court does not hold that the mode is of the legacy, but will effectuate the gift to charity as the substance; providing a mode for that legatee to take which is not provided for any 'other legatee.' This passage is reported in somewhat different language, but substantially to the same effect, in *Mer. 99*. Now Mr. Granville Sharp gave all the residue of his estate, in trust for a charitable purpose. Charity was his residuary legatee and, according to the established doctrine, if all the money left is not exhausted in carrying out the particular mode in which he desired his charitable intention carried out, the Court must effectuate the substantial intention of charity by providing some mode for the application of the surplus upon the principle of *cy-pres*."

His Lordship after dealing with cases quoted by counsel went on to say—I have, now, I think, called attention to all or nearly all the cases cited in argument before me. Some of them are not perhaps very much in point, but as they were mentioned during the discussion of the case in chambers, I have deemed it my duty to consider them, and I am of opinion that, in the

result, I must hold that, "assuming that, at the date of the testator's death, his residuary estate bequeathed by his will and codicil was more than sufficient to provide for the erection and maintenance of the hospital therein mentioned, the surplus must be devoted to charity and the *cy-pres* doctrine be applied, and that there is no resulting trust for the next of kin as regards such surplus. My decision is, therefore, as follows:—

Declare that in designating the Colonial Chaplain as one of the committee and one of the trustees of the hospital mentioned in his will and codicil, the testator intended to designate the Chaplain of St. John's Cathedral Church in this Colony.

Declare that the residuary bequest in the will and codicil is a good charitable bequest and that the executors and trustees of the will should erect and provide for the maintenance of a hospital at the Peak in accordance with the directions contained in the said will and codicil, and that if due provision for the erection and maintenance of such hospital should not exhaust the whole of the residuary estate, the unexhausted portion or surplus ought to be applied to charitable purposes according to a scheme for the regulation and management of such surplus trust property to be settled by the Court, having regard to the directions contained in the will and codicil and the whole circumstances of the case.

Order that an enquiry be made by the Registrar, as to the nature, scope, size and cost of the hospital directed by the said will and codicil to be erected and maintained, and as to the endowment required for such maintenance, with a view to the future expansion (if necessary) of such hospital, and that a scheme for the erection, endowment and management of such hospital be prepared by the executors and trustees and settled by the Registrar, subject to the approval of the Court.

Order that an enquiry be made by the Registrar as to the charitable purposes to which any surplus of the residuary estate (after providing for the erection and maintenance of the said hospital) ought to be applied, and that a scheme be prepared by the executors and trustees of the will and settled by the Registrar, subject to the approval and direction of the Court, for the appropriation of such surplus to such charitable purposes.

Order that an enquiry be made by the Registrar, as to the best mode of realising and winding up the testator's estate.

Order that the costs of all parties be taxed, as between solicitor and client, and be paid out of the residuary estate.

I may add that, before the decree is finally drawn up, I shall be glad if any of the parties would forward to me in writing any suggestions they have to make with regard to any improvement in its form if I have omitted anything they desire added which does not affect its substance. Although I have delivered a very long judgment I have done this advisedly, because these authorities are not very easy of access, and I have read them very carefully; and if there should be an appeal it would be a convenience to have everything in black and white and all the facts stated in a nutshell.

Mr. Slade asked that the costs be taxed on the basis of an ordinary hearing in Court.

His Lordship declined to do this, however, as the case had been heard in chambers. He had only delivered judgment in open Court because the matter was one of much public importance.

In the British Court for Siam on the 17th ult. his Honour Acting Judge Wilkinson and a jury concluded the hearing of the action brought by Chua Hok Chong against Mr. Thomas Jones, Manager of the Chartered Bank, for 3,000 ficals damages for malicious prosecution. The jury found for the defendant, with costs.

The race for the Champion Stakes at Tientsin on the 19th ult. ended in a win for Mr. J. M. D.'s *Rainband* (Mr. R. Stewart up), who was followed by Mr. Detring's *Cym* (Mr. N. A. Andersen) and Mr. FitzJames's *Light O'Heels* (Mr. F. J. L. Shaw). The *pari-mutuel* paid over \$57 on the winner. Mr. J. M. D.'s stable won 7 firsts, 3 seconds, and 3 thirds at the meeting.

HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD

A meeting of the Sanitary Board was held on the 2nd inst. in the Board Room. Hon. Dr. J. M. Atkinson presided, and there were also present Hon. A. W. Brewin, Registrar-General; Mr. Fung Wa Chun; Colonel W. E. Webb, R.A.M.C.; Mr. A. Rumjahn; Hon. H. E. Pollock, K.C.; Mr. E. A. Hewett; Dr. W. W. Pearse, Medical Officer of Health; Mr. F. J. Badeley, Captain Superintendent of Police; Dr. Barnett; and Mr. T. A. Hammer (Acting Secretary).

The minutes of the last meeting were confirmed.

OLD WELLS, IN QUEEN'S ROAD.

A minute by the Medical Officer of Health, recommending that certain old wells in No. 122 and 126, Queen's Road Central, be closed, was discussed.

Mr. LAU CHU PAK said it was not reasonable to close any more wells unless they could get an efficient water supply. If the Chinese did drink this water they boiled it first. He, personally, was driven to use well water when he was unable to get any from the mains. He proposed the wells be not closed until there was a proper supply of water for washing purposes.

Mr. A. RUMJAHN said the places were first-class eating houses that required water to wash pots, etc. The wells should not be closed while there was an intermittent supply. Let the matter be brought forward when there was a good water supply.

Mr. E. A. HEWETT strongly recommended that the wells be closed. The question was, Did the Government supply enough water? When there was a short supply of water at the eating houses the well water would be largely used for potable purposes. They ought to order that these wells be closed at once.

Mr. LAU CHU PAK contended that the water was better than that in mosquito breeding nullahs where people baled out water.

On a vote being taken it was carried that the well be closed, Messrs. Lau Chu Pak and A. Rumjahn voting against it.

NULLAH AT THE RACECOURSE.

Dr. Barnett, in a minute, recommended that the nullah running by the west side of the Racecourse be trained.

Hon. Registrar-General minuted: It would be much better, where the Board is called upon to recommend expenditure for an object like this, if it had placed before it a general report and not one on a particular object. The M.O.H. should invite the attention of the Board to all nullahs, the training of which he thinks advisable, and the Board can then decide which work it considers most pressing.

Mr. E. A. Hewett minuted: I agree with the Registrar-General. The two nullahs running into the Parade Ground at the Peak are swarming with mosquitoes, which must adversely affect the health of the men at Mount Austin Barracks.

Mr. A. Rumjahn minuted: Every nullah in the Colony should be trained. The nullahs at Magazine Gap should have been trained long ago. I hope the Medical Officer of Health will make a general report on all untrained nullahs.

Hon. H. E. Pollock minuted: This nullah clearly ought to be trained.

Col. Webb minuted: I think this nullah should be trained.

Mr. Lau Chu Pak minuted: As a matter of fact every nullah ought to be trained.

Hon. D.P.W.: This is entirely a matter of funds. The Government has spent a large amount this year, and have other nullahs equally objectionable in view for further training.

The PRESIDENT proposed that the recommendation be forwarded to the Government.

Mr. E. A. HEWETT proposed an amendment to include the two nullahs he had mentioned. He had visited the vicinity and been nearly driven away by mosquitoes. A few weeks back the Peak was almost untenable. It was very bad for the troops at Mount Austin. He thought Colonel Webb would agree with him.

Colonel WEBB said the troops had not been affected by these nullahs, the men being provided with mosquito curtains. The streams were examined after the rains, but they were unable to find many mosquitoes. He recommended that as they could not train all the streams at the same time they should find

out which it was most important to train first. The PRESIDENT proposed that Mr. Hewett's letter, if no one objected, accompany the report, and this was agreed to.

Hon. REGISTRAR GENERAL mentioned that there were a large number of matcheds at Wongneichong that ought to be pulled down.

Dr. BARNETT said that the matter had been under consideration for the past month.

APPLICATION FROM STATION STREET.

An application for a modification of the requirements of the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance, in respect of Nos. 2 and 34, Station Street, Mongkok, came before the Board. No open space is provided in the rear of these premises, so the Sanitary Board recently issued a notice to abate the building nuisance by opening out on each story one-half of the entire space intervening between the principal room or rooms and the main wall at the back of the building, as well as the corresponding portion of roof, and by providing each story with a window of at least ten square feet superficial area, opening into the open space.

Mr. A. Rumjahn minuted: Grant exemption. This matter was left over for further information.

A QUESTION OF BACK-YARDS.

Application was made for exemption from the provision of back-yards, in respect of Nos. 140 to 158, Reclamation Street, Yaumati.

The applicant in his letter explained that there was a 15ft. lane at the rear of the houses, which are well let and ventilated. He understood that a block of houses close by this lot was altered in a similar manner, exemption being granted.

The application was granted.

A YAUMATI APPLICATION.

Another application for the modification of the requirements was in respect of No. 81, Temple Street, Yaumati.

Hon. D.P.W. minuted: To obtain the 92 feet would mean setting back the wall seven feet. This would reduce the house to only 22 feet 6 inches. As it is a corner one I think it might be exempted on this count.

Mr. A. Rumjahn minuted: As is seen from the block plan, the lot is 45 feet in depth according to the scale given, with a lane about 15 feet wide at the rear, the lane being a public one, I presume. If such is the case I do not see how the open space proposed to be provided would come to 146 square feet, and the ground floor diagram showing a space of six feet to the boundary line of the property cannot be correct at the same time. I would suggest in future that full detailed measurements of the lot and the width of the lane, if any, at the rear; as well as the nature of such lane, whether private or public; should be given by applicants, so that members may easily see what is laid before them. As this is a corner lot with a public street 30 ft. wide on the side, and a lane 15 ft. wide at the rear, the building when completed should be well lighted, and I think exemption might be granted.

The application was granted.

EXTERNAL AIR.

The owner of No. 5, Sun Wai Lane applied for exemption from removing certain cubicles from his house, as ordered by the Inspector of Nuisances. He stated that he had only one cubicle on the premises, and that one opened on to a side lane with an air space of about 10ft. in width. He was prepared to open another window in this cubicle.

This was conditionally granted.

OTHER APPLICATIONS.

An application was made for a modification of the requirements in respect of No. 30, D'Aguiar Street. It was granted.

An application was made for exemption from the provision of back-yards in respect of No. 4 to 32, Station Street North, Kongkotsui. It was granted.

An application was made for exemption from the provision of open spaces in respect of No. 149, Des Voeux Road and No. 137, Bulkeley Street, Hunghom required.

With reference to the latter Mr. Rumjahn minuted: Dividing up the kitchen to form a lobby with a window opening into the lane would be preferable.

A decision was postponed to enable further information to be obtained.

LODGING HOUSES.

Mr. E. A. Hewett, in reference to further washing accommodation in certain common lodging houses, minuted as follows: This requires discussion, but it appears to me that as it has not hitherto been the custom to provide baths I do not think we can insist upon landlords doing this. The Government should provide public bath-houses.

This was not discussed.

PEAK STATION.

Further correspondence relative to the proposed erection of a urinal in the engine-house at the Peak tramway terminus was discussed.

Permission to erect an urinal was refused.

VETERINARY REPORT.

The report of the Colonial Veterinary Surgeon for 1903 was laid on the table and adopted.

SERVANTS' QUARTERS.

An application was made for a modification of the requirements in respect of external air at the servants' quarters of No. 15, Queen's Road Central. This was granted.

OTHER ITEMS.

Various applications relative to renewal of licences were discussed, and dealt with on their respective merits.

The Mortality Statistics for the week ending 14th May were laid on the table. They showed the following death rate per 1,000 per annum:—British and Foreign community, 30.8; Chinese population, 22.2; Chinese boat population, 19.5; the whole Colony, excluding Army and Navy, 22.0. The corresponding week of last year showed 23.9 for the whole Colony, and the week ended 7th May this year, 20.6.

The Lime-washing Return for the fortnight ending 24th May was laid on the table. The Rat Return for the week ending 30th ult. showed that out of 325 rats caught at Hongkong 53 were found to be infected, and out of 168 rats caught at Kowloon eight were infected.

This was all the business.

SANITARY SURVEYOR'S REPORT.

The report of Mr. J. J. Bryan, Sanitary Surveyor, is published in the *Gazette*. From it it appears that plans have been deposited and passed by him during the year for the drainage of 263 houses. The plans of 713 houses were carried forward from 1902, making a total of 976 in hand during the year. The drainage of 415 houses has been completed, and the plans for 350 have been cancelled, leaving 211 to carry forward to 1904. Plans for re-drainage of, or additions to, the drainage of 94 houses were carried forward from 1902, and new plans have been received for 260 houses, making a total of 354 for the year. Of these, 245 have been completed and 51 cancelled, leaving 58 to be carried forward to 1904. The drains of 106 houses have been tested and reported on, in consequence of complaints having been received regarding them. Of this number, 56 required reconstructing, 28 amending, and the remainder were found to be in order. Notices were served on the owners of the above 84 houses calling upon them to execute the necessary work. Of these, 80 have been complied with and the remaining 4 are in hand. 31,791 houses have been visited by the drainage inspectors with the result that 1,878 drainage nuisances have been discovered. Notices have been served in each case, on the owner or occupier, calling upon them to abate the nuisance. All of these have been complied with. 268 nuisances have been referred to the M.O.H. and 343 to the D.P.W. to be dealt with by them. 1,705 choked drain traps on private property have been cleaned by the drainage foremen.

The whole of the bodies dead of plague during the year have been buried in Cheungshawan Cemetery. There is room for about 40 bodies in Kennedy Town Cemetery, but he thinks it advisable to reserve that space for any emergency that may arise. 25 new terraces have been formed in Mount Davis Cemetery, and a new terraces in Mount Caroline Cemetery.

Mr. A. W. Hills, acting usher at the Supreme Court, has been appointed usher in succession to Mr. V. A. Sales, who died at Macao about a week ago.

HONGKONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

At a monthly meeting of the General Committee of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce held in the Chamber Room, City Hall, on Wednesday, 11th May, 1904, at 3 o'clock p.m., Present:—Mr. E. A. Hewett (Chairman), Messrs W. J. Gresson, A. Haupt, N. A. Siebs, J. R. M. Smith, R. C. Wilcox, A. G. Wood, Hon. H. E. Pollock, K.C., and A. R. Lowe (Secretary).

NEW COMMITTEE.

The CHAIRMAN mentioned that this was the first meeting of the new Committee elected at the Annual Meeting and he took the opportunity of welcoming Mr. W. J. Gresson, who had not sat on the Committee before as had the other Members.

MINUTES.

The minutes of the monthly Committee Meeting of the 12th April were read and confirmed.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

The CHAIRMAN said that the Secretary had drawn his attention to an infringement of the Act under which the copyright of the Reuter's telegrams issued by the Chamber was protected, and he had authorised legal proceedings being instituted to punish the offenders and to deter others from acting in a similar manner. The Police Court prosecution was successful, as a Japanese photographer was fined \$10 for publishing copies of the telegrams in his studio, and Messrs. Guedes & Co's delivery coolie was sentenced to 2 months imprisonment with hard labour for obtaining money on false pretences by selling copies of the wires which he was not authorised to do.

PILOTS' ORDINANCE.

Correspondence was read dealing with the rules under which the Harbour Master would regulate the conduct of the pilots registered under the Ordinance, and the Secretary was instructed to advise the Government of the Committee's approval of the rules submitted subject to a minor alteration.

COTTON CULTIVATION IN THE NEW TERRITORY.

The following reply to the communication from the Botanical and Afforestation Department brought before the last meeting was read:—

Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce.
Hongkong, 21st April, 1904.

Sir.—I am directed to inform you that the Committee of this Chamber have read your letter of the 25th ultimo on the subject of Cotton Cultivation in the New Territory with much interest.

Hongkong having entered into the manufacture of Cotton Yarn the availability of a good supply of the raw material, grown within the limits of the Colony is of great importance, and the Committee are anxious that all reasonable means should be taken to further the project.

It has therefore been suggested to the Government that Cotton seed or plants should be distributed amongst the Farmers in the New Territory and prizes offered for successful cultivation to stimulate interest in the experiment. In this way it would be possible to prove at a small expense whether the theories advanced by you are likely to have a practical side.

Indian raw Cotton now costs locally 28 to 32½ dollars and Chinese and Japanese 31½ to 32½ dollars per picul. An inferior Cotton to that grown in Shanghai district could be readily sold locally and the possibility of a large production at a reasonable cost in the New Territory and Kwangtung Province would undoubtedly lead to the greater prosperity of the local industry and a desirable extension of Cotton Manufacture in this Colony.

In conclusion I am to state that any efforts you may make with the above object in view will always have the warm support of my Committee, and they will be pleased to be kept informed of the experimental steps which doubtless will be taken to prove your contention.

—I have honour to be,

Your obedient servant,
(Sd) A. R. Lowe.
Secretary.

S. T. Dunn, Esq.
Superintendent,
Botanical & Afforestation Department.

Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce.

Hongkong, 21st April, 1904.

Sir,—I am directed to enclose for the information of His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government copy of letter on the subject of Cotton growing in the New Territory from Mr. S. T. Dunn, the Superintendent of the Botanical and Afforestation Department, and my reply thereto.

It appears to my Committee that no reasonable means should be left undone to prove whether the growing of raw Cotton within the bounds of the Colony is practicable or not, as, in the event of successful production, the possibilities of extending the Cotton manufacturing industry of this Colony will be very great, and thus materially add to the wealth of the community, while a ready sale elsewhere could be found for any surplus.

His Excellency is doubtless aware of the attempt by the Lancashire Manufacturers to further the cultivation of raw cotton on British soil in East Africa. This experiment will undoubtedly increase the value of the East African Colony, and, by providing a British competitor, check the violent fluctuations in the cost of the raw material now caused by the bulk of the world's crop being in American hands.

If the proposed cultivation can be successfully prosecuted within the Colony's territory the local attempt will not only emulate what is now being done at home, but mills in Hongkong would have the additional advantage of finding the raw material practically at their own doors.

My Committee beg to suggest for His Excellency's consideration that a small vote should be provided in the next Budget to meet the expense of distributing Cotton seed, or plants, to suitable Farmers, and prizes for the three best results obtained. The proving of the experiment would thus cost little money, and if successful results are obtained other Farmers will readily realise the advantage to be gained by turning their attention to the production of Cotton.—I have the honour to be, sir,

Your obedient servant.

(Sd.) A. R. LOWE.

Secretary.

Hon. A. M. Thomson,

Acting Colonial Secretary.

LEWIS AND CLARK CENTENNIAL EXPOSITION
AT PORTLAND (OREGON).

The following letter was read:—

Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce.

Hongkong, 21st April, 1904.

Sir,—I am instructed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 29th ultimo and enclosures regarding the proposed Lewis and Clark Centennial Exposition at Portland (Oregon) in 1905.

The question whether the Government should take any steps with a view to this Colony being officially represented at the exhibition has been discussed by my Committee and they desire me to inform you that in their opinion it is not necessary for the Government to go to any expense in the matter. The reasons which have guided the Committee to this decision are that the manufactures of Hongkong are inconsiderable and its natural products so limited that it would be difficult to form a separate court to adequately represent the trade of the Colony.

I am to suggest that it would be sufficient if the Registrar General represents to the Chinese manufacturers of silver ware, ivory ornaments, carved blackwood, etc., the advantages likely to be gained by sending exhibits. This I believe was the practice followed when the St. Louis Exhibition authorities approached the Government two years ago.—I have the honour to be, sir,

Your obedient servant.

(Sd.) A. R. LOWE.

Secretary.

Hon. A. M. Thomson,

Acting Colonial Secretary..

RUSSIAN RESTRICTIONS AT NEWCHWANG.

Correspondence from the Government containing copies of telegrams received from the H. M. Consul at Newchwang relating to warning issued by the Russian authorities at that port for the guidance of shipping was laid on the table.

DATING OF NEW YORK TELEGRAMS.

The following reply to the representations made by the Chamber in February last was read:—

New York, 29th March, 1904.

Mr. A. R. Lowe,

Secretary, Chamber of Commerce.

Hongkong.

Dear Sir.—Your valued favour of 23rd ultimo, addressed to the Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce of the State of New York, has been referred to this Committee.

In reply I would say that we have received a similar letter from the Chamber of Commerce of Shanghai and referred the complaint with regard to the dating of telegrams to the Commercial Pacific Cable Company. In reply the Commercial Pacific Cable Company informed us that they saw no valid reason for departing from their present custom and I regret, therefore, to state that our efforts in this direction have been unavailing.—I am, my dear Sir,

Yours very truly,

(Sd) GUSTAV H. SCHWABE.

Chairman, Committee on Foreign Commerce and the Revenue Laws.

The CHAIRMAN said the attitude adopted by the Commercial Pacific Cable Company was to be regretted.

QUARANTINE RESTRICTIONS.

A letter was read dated from the Government notifying the fact of the port having been declared by the Government of Burma to be plague infected.

FISCAL REFORM.

A draft letter was read and approved in reply to a communication from the Government asking for the views of the Chamber on the question.

HEALTH OFFICER OF THE PORT.

It was decided to address the Government again with the object of impressing on the Officer Administering the Government the desirability of reforms being instituted in the department of the Health Officer of the Port.

CURRENCY QUESTION.

The CHAIRMAN said that at the recent general meeting the desirability of not letting this matter drop was referred to, and, as nothing more had been heard from the Diplomatic Body at Peking beyond an expression of sympathy with the views of the Shanghai, Tientsin and Hongkong Chambers of Commerce, it was decided to enquire from the Shanghai Chamber whether their Committee was prepared to take any further steps with a view to urging on the Chinese Government the institution of a uniform national coinage throughout the Empire.

KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY.

The CHAIRMAN said this question was dealt with at the annual meeting, and he proposed that representations should be made to the Government and Sir Ernest Satow on the lines indicated in his speech at the recent general meeting.

After some discussion this was agreed to.

THE CANTON-SAMSHUI
RAILWAY.

OPENING OF FATSHAN SAMSHUI SECTION.

On Wednesday the second section of the new Canton railway—that between Fatshan and Samshui—was formally opened under auspicious conditions. This section is a continuation of the line that was opened in November last from Canton to Fatshan. The whole completed portion now extends to a little over 30 miles in length. The American Development Company which has built this line have also the concession for the grand trunk line from Canton to Hankow, which will run along the opposite bank of the river. Exclusive of the densely populated cities of Fatshan and Canton, it is estimated that the line opened on Wednesday will serve about a million inhabitants in the district through which it runs.

The opening ceremony was attended by a large concourse of people, including guests from Shameen and Hongkong and a large number of high Chinese officials. Among those present were:—Hon. Robert W. McWade, Consul General for U.S.A., Mrs and Miss McWade; Hon. H. M. Hobbins, U.S.A. Vice-Consul, Hongkong. Dr. Walters, Vice-Consul for Germany; Count de Vaynea, Vice-Consul for France; C. R.

Huijgen, Consul for the Netherlands; W. Domnich, Vice-Consul for Sweden and Norway; Z. Volpicelli, Consul for Italy; Mr. and Mrs. R. de Luca, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. May, Mr. and Mrs. J. Zundel, Mr. and Mrs. Grant, Messrs. Spallinger, Hug, Hogg, Lafrentz, Romney, A. Von Behnezewieg, Fumel, Stanton, W. Cater, S. R. Gilman, R. C. Comrie, H. Cerin, R. H. Harvie, S. W. Russell, Holmes, J. Lind, Gans, Howe, Farnham, W. Pinkston, Frost, J. Strohl, Spethman, Van Allen, C. S. Paget, and others. Among the Chinese present were:—H. E. the Governor of Canton, H. E. the Tartar General, H. E. the Hoppo, Their Honours the Grain Taotai, Li Taotai, Construction Director Wen Taotai, Traffic Director Li-Taotai, Director of the Arsenal Lo Taotai, Director of the Military College, Chung Taotai, and the Land Director of the Canton-Hankow Railway.

Ferry launches carried the guests from Canton to Shekwaitong, the terminus of the railway, where a special corridor train composed of new cars was awaiting to convey them over the line to Samshui. The train was decked with flags and all the depot buildings at the station were decorated likewise in brilliantly coloured bunting that looked resplendent under the brilliant sunshine. Evidences are not wanting to show that the Company are making rapid progress with the permanent buildings here. A Reception Committee made things pleasant for the guests and looked after their comfort in every possible way. Seats were not taken on the train until after the arrival of the Chinese officials, who, in full dress were escorted by a numerous guard of braves and were received by the railway guards drawn up along the approaches to the train in their picturesque uniform and glittering rifles.

Following them came the band of the 110th Mahratta Light Infantry, who also boarded the train and discoursed popular music *en route*. A start was at length made, the train speeding through the beautiful, rich country which drew forth expressions of admiration from all present. That part of the line between Canton and Fatshan has already become familiar to many Hongkong people, and the beauty of the country through which it runs need not be expatiated upon. The country which this new section has opened up between Fatshan and Samshui is, as fertile and as verdant, with the added charm of undulating hills rich in verdure to their summits. As it turned out, the train did not proceed all the way to Samshui, but came to a halt at a point some one and a half miles distant from it, owing to there having been some delay in surmounting a constructional difficulty on the road. After an inspection had been made of the terminal works, the train started on the return journey to Shekwaitong, which was reached between one and two o'clock. Luncheon, purveyed by Mr. R. Daly, of Messrs. Daly and Ward of Hongkong, was served in excellent style in a matshed at the depot, the company present numbering some 250. After luncheon, a short toast-list was entered upon.

Mr. JOSEPH LIND, Acting Superintendent of Transportation, in welcoming the guests, said it was a great pleasure to have them there on the occasion to take part in the opening of the Samshui Division of the Yuen Han Railway. It was not necessary for him to enter into any explanation as to the accommodation and equipment to be furnished, how the line would be managed, etc., any more than to say that it was a business venture and consequently the almighty dollar became the arbitrator of the accommodations they would get. The management must give just what the people demand and what they were willing to pay for, and he could assure them that this would be the best and most modern that could be had; and at no distant date their equipment would be manufactured in China, which would be the means of giving employment to numberless natives. The march of modern progress sometimes naturally displaced honoured occupations. What, for instance, became of the stage-coach drivers when railways were first introduced? Perhaps not one in a thousand turned engine-driver. There could be no cause for alarm in this Flowery Kingdom, and with its unlimited resources and boundless possibilities they could safely predict that the time would come when China would become a network of steel, her iron horses would labour under their heavy

loads of wealth, and school-houses would be as numerous as the sampans that float on its streams, and the sons of China would receive an education on the Western system, fitting them for the burdens which the 20th century placed upon them. The day was at hand when men of liberal education and intelligence must fill the public offices. Education would sweep away all the barriers that hampered progress, and it was to be hoped that in a very short time Chinese finances would be founded on the gold standard. This would hasten the establishment of a Government capable of governing honestly: order would be guaranteed and civilisation transformed to a living reality. Look at her fertile fields, her patient and industrious people. What would China be when national unity, a spirit of freedom and love of country was instilled in them? Was it possible to forecast her position in the commercial world? In the name of the Canton-Hankow Railway he bade them welcome. He hoped that the day would be so enjoyable as to make a lasting impression upon their minds, and he assured them that any lack of courtesy would not be intentional on their part. The short time in which they had to make preparations would count for any negligence that might occur. He had pleasure in presenting to them as toast-master of this gathering an officer of the construction department, Colonel William M. Pinkston.

Colonel PINKSTON said that many present would recall the pleasant occasion on 15th November last when that branch of the line was formally opened and trains ran between Shekwaitong and Fatsan. To-day they had again assembled to celebrate with appropriate ceremony the practical completion of the Samshui branch of the Canton-Hankow Railway from Canton, the entrepot of Southern China, to the picturesque city at the confluence of the North and West Rivers, Samshui. This work of construction had only been accomplished after the expenditure of a large sum of money and he regretted to say, loss of life. Within the narrow confines from the City of the Dead to Namshektan slept some of the sons of English-speaking countries who were to-day mourned by a dear old mother, wife or sweetheart. Nor could they forget that in the cities and villages along the line of that road there were sleeping their last sleep the husband and father, mother and wife, and sons of the historical Flowery Kingdom, who had given up their lives while in the line of duty. In the name of the Chinese Government, the stock-holders of the Imperial Chinese Railway Administration, and the American China Development Company, he had pleasure in formally declaring the Samshui branch of the Canton-Hankow Railway open for general traffic between its terminals, and while the band was playing an appropriate air he would propose the toast to their friends there assembled coupled with the name of H.E. Governor Chang.

H.E. Governor CHANG responded in a few sentences, thanking the Company for asking them to be present, referring to the benefits that must accrue to the country through the presence of the railway, which he hoped would always carry peaceful materials.

Consul-General McWADE, in proposing the toast of the Empress Dowager and the President of the United States, said he thought it ought to be made known to everybody that the men connected with this railway work deserved well, for they had not come here for their own benefit but for the benefit of the country. They desired to help this great Empire of China and themselves at the same time; and if it was so it was also a benefit to the country to which they belonged and of which they were subjects. The people of Hongkong however did not seem to have arrived at the conclusion that a railway would be a benefit to every merchant in Hongkong. This railway would develop the country and increase its revenue. He was sure they were quite ready to take the responsibility of building the railway from Kowloon to Canton. If the building of the rail road from Macao to Canton was turned over to the Americans they would build it, and build it free of expense to the people who gave them the contract. They were showing on that line what they could do; and if the people judged from past experience

they could depend upon them to stand to their word. (Applause.)

Mr. N. M. HOLMES spoke regarding the work done in building the line, of the difficulties that had had to be overcome.

Mr. F. H. FARNHAM, divisional engineer for the Samshui Section of the railroad, pointed out in the course of an excellent speech that difficulties of a stupendous nature had been met with, and hence the delay. But these difficulties had been overcome through the loyal devotion not only of the engineers and the clerks in the office but of the line-men, who were Americans, English, Scottish, Irish, and in fact men of all nationalities. The coolie brigade also deserved praise for the way in which they had worked. He could not speak too highly of the manner in which the work had been done. The opening of this new section had been rushed through, hence the line was not in that condition that an engineer would like to present it to them, but in a short time it would be properly ballasted and fixed up. He hoped that now the main line from Canton to Hankow would be pushed on as rapidly as possible.

Mr. BRENNAN, Samshui, congratulated the inhabitants of that place on the completion of the railway, which brought them into such close touch with Canton and opened up the beautiful hills of Samshui to the Canton people.

The toasts of "The Press" and "The Ladies" concluded the list, and after a group photograph had been taken the company dispersed.

A. S. WATSON AND CO., LD.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The nineteenth ordinary general meeting of the shareholders of Messrs. A. S. Watson & Co., Ltd., was held on the 31st ult. in the offices of the Company, Alexandra Buildings. Mr. H. Humphreys (chairman) presided, and there were also present Hon. Sir Paul Chater, C.M.G., Messrs. R. C. Wilcox, H. P. White, E. Osborne, J. A. Jupp (consulting committee), Hamilton Sharp, G. Murray Bain, C. W. May, N. Mumford, T. F. Hough, E. W. Terrey, W. Lysaught, J. A. Tarrant, E. Millar, and A. H. Mancell (secretary).

The SECRETARY having read the notice calling the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen.—The report and statement of accounts have been in your hands for the past few days, so, with your permission, I will take them as read. You will notice, if you compare last year's balance-sheet with the year before, that "stocks in trade" show an increase of \$15,324,005, which is approximately balanced by an increase in the liabilities. This material addition to our stocks is principally due to the opening last year of new European branches at Kowloon and on the Shameen, at Canton, but there has also been a notable increase in the stocks and plant of our various mineral water factories. You will also observe that our property at Iloilo no longer appears amongst the assets. This was sold in September last year, the general managers and consulting committee being of opinion that the conditions prevailing in the Philippine Islands did not offer sufficient inducement for expanding our business in that direction. The small loss incurred by the sale has been met in the accounts under review. You are all probably aware that we have just moved into our new premises. The building, as you can see for yourselves, is a very fine one and a credit to the architects. The fitting up of that portion of it occupied by our own shops has entailed a good deal of thought, work, and expense. The work is not yet quite complete, but sufficiently so to enable you to judge what it will be like. The expenditure on new fixtures and fittings amounts to \$17,000, consequently, in last year's accounts, we have deemed it expedient to set aside a somewhat larger amount for writing off purposes than usual, as the old fittings, when sold, will not fetch anything like what they cost. We trust, however, that you approve of what has been done, and we trust also you will consider the new premises of the Hongkong Dispensary worthy of the community whose confidence and support it has so long enjoyed. We have lately acquired the two businesses in Shanghai of Messrs. Mactavish and Lehmann at what we consider a very reasonable price,

on which we confidently anticipate a handsome yearly return. The greater portion of the purchase money has yet to be paid. We hope in a short time that this Company will occupy the same predominant position in its own line in Shanghai to that which it occupies in every other place where it is established. There is only one other matter I need refer to, and that is the question of new capital. For several years past the Chairman has intimated at the annual meetings that it might be necessary in the near future to increase the Company's capital. In the opinion of your general managers and consulting committee that necessity has now arisen. Since our last increase of capital in 1892 the purchasing value of the dollar has decreased 40 per cent., while the volume of our trade has more than quadrupled. This development has been brought about partly by the larger turnover of the old business and its branches and partly by the demand created by the new businesses we have either established ourselves or bought as going concerns. This decrease of purchasing power and development of business affords in itself a full and sufficient reason for increasing the Company's capital, but there are other equally sufficient reasons. We have, as you know, a considerable amount of money invested in our various mineral water factories, and during the past five years all these have been refitted with new machinery and plant. I may mention also, that since our last increase of capital the reserve fund has been increased by \$150,000, out of which the item of \$100,000 for goodwill and trade marks has been written entirely out of the books, and more than the whole of the Company's capital paid to the shareholders in the form of dividend. We have been enabled to do all this without making any call upon you owing to large profits on sales of property at different times, more liberal writing off in recent years, and largely increased liabilities. There is a point, however, beyond which it is inadvisable to borrow, and in my opinion that point has now been reached. Before moving the adoption of the report and statement of accounts, I shall be pleased to answer any questions.

There being no questions.

The CHAIRMAN moved the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr. C. W. MAY seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN moved the confirmation of Messrs. E. Osborne and H. P. White's appointment to the consulting committee.

Mr. MURRAY BAIN seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

Mr. J. A. JUPP moved the re-election of Messrs. F. Maitland and W. Hutton Potts as auditors.

Mr. HAMILTON SHARP seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

Dividend warrants will be ready to-morrow.

EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING.

An extraordinary general meeting was held after the annual meeting for the purpose of considering a proposal for the increase of the capital of the Company.

The SECRETARY having read the notice calling the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen.—Before proposing the resolution which you have just heard read, you will, no doubt, be glad to have some idea of the manner in which it is proposed to issue the new capital in the event of the resolution being carried. I have already explained at the annual meeting the causes which, in the opinion of your general managers and consulting committee, render such a measure unavoidable, so I will confine myself to giving you an outline of what we propose to do. The intention is to issue the new capital on the 28th September next and to offer the shares at a premium of 10 per cent., to the registered shareholders in the proportion of one new share for every two old shares, such shares to rank for dividend for the three months ending 31st December, 1904, payable in May, 1905. Ample notice and full particulars will be given by advertisement of the manner in which it is proposed to call up and allot the new issue. If any shareholder has any questions to ask I shall be pleased to answer them to the best of my ability.

Mr. MURRAY BAIN—Gentlemen,—I intend to second this resolution, so that I am not

antagonistic to the proposition—far from it. But I think it would be as well if the chairman would give us just a little more information as to the prospects of meeting the increase of capital with a reasonable dividend.

The CHAIRMAN.—I think Mr. Murray Bain wants me to assure the shareholders, or to give an assurance in some sort of way, that the present dividend of 10 per cent. will not be prejudiced by the new increase of capital. Is that so?

Mr. MURRAY BAIN.—Yes; that is so.

The CHAIRMAN.—Well, I do not think any chairman could actually promise or foretell what is going to occur in the future; but I think as far as we can see—as far as it is possible to predict, humanly speaking—we can maintain a dividend of 10 per cent. in the future. The increase will not make a very great difference to us, for the reason that some of our liabilities, mortgages, loans, and one thing and the other, are at the present moment paying 9 per cent., so that the margin between this 9 per cent. and 10 per cent. now paying to the shareholders is not a very great one to meet. Does that satisfy you?

Mr. MURRAY BAIN.—Yes, thank you.

The CHAIRMAN.—There being no questions, I beg to move the following resolution: "That the capital of the Company be increased to nine hundred thousand dollars by the creation of thirty thousand new shares of ten dollars each."

Mr. MURRAY BAIN (Gentlemen, I have great pleasure in seconding that resolution. As one of the original shareholders in the Company, I have followed it all these years in its workings, and it has been borne in upon the minds of those who have taken an interest in the Company that it was essentially necessary that larger funds should be got. The expansion of the business, as our chairman has said, has been enormous. It has quadrupled within a certain number of years, and I think this resolution proposing an increase of capital will commend itself to every shareholder. I beg to second the resolution.

The motion was carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN.—There will be a confirmatory meeting later on of which due notice will be given by advertisement.

This was all the business.

PUNJOM MINING CO., LD.

RECONSTRUCTION PROPOSED.

The seventh ordinary general meeting of shareholders in the above company was held on the 1st inst. at the office of the Company, No. 13, Beaconsfield Arcade, the attendance including Messrs R. C. Wilcox (chairman), W. Kerfoot Hughes (director), S. A. Joseph, T. F. Hough, Ellis Kadoorie, H. C. Wilcox, R. Walpole, E. W. Terry, J. McCubbin, A. N. Ribeiro, Max Michael, J. R. Michael, R. A. Fergusson and A. B. Lowe (Acting Secretary).

The notice convening the meeting having been read by the Acting Secretary.

The CHAIRMAN said:—Gentlemen,—The report and statement of accounts, together with the Manager's report, have been in your hands for some time, and, with your permission, I propose to take them as read. You will no doubt all have read the report by Mr. Warnford Lock, the Manager of the Raub Australian Gold Mining Co., Ltd., on our concession, with a review of its prospects and capabilities. That report we believe to be a thoroughly impartial document, and a further guarantee for the soundness of its conclusions is to be found in the fact that Mr. Lock was accompanied during his survey by Mr. Scriver, the Federal Government's Geologist. The Board have to regret that later efforts to develop the field of operations proved so unsuccessful. In the light of Mr. Lock's exhaustive report, this is not so much to be wondered at. As shown in paragraph 23, the best development at any time was undoubtedly at Jalis. Yet even there it must be admitted that the thousands of feet of driving and cross-cutting signally failed to prove the existence of a permanent and payable body. Mr. Lock significantly adds:—"There seems to have been no main fissure, or joint, or contact plane on which a strong lode could form." This unremunerative work has brought our funds to so low a point

that it was deemed necessary to send instructions to the mines to "shut down" before our resources were quite exhausted. At the same time it was thought advisable, before presenting a statement to the shareholders, that we should obtain a thoroughly reliable and independent report on the concession, both in order to explain, if possible, the reasons for the constant giving out of payable patches of ore and also to enable the shareholders to form an intelligent idea of the true position of affairs, so that they would be able to come to a decision as to the future of the Company on this occasion. I do not propose to go now further into detail in reference to the mines or their working, because we shall presently take occasion to do this. I will therefore first ask you to pass the report and statement of accounts for the year ending 31st December last.

Mr. S. A. JOSEPH seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

Mr. McCUBBIN moved the re-election of Mr. R. C. Wilcox and Mr. Kerfoot Hughes as directors for the ensuing year.

Mr. E. W. TERRY seconded, and the motion was passed unanimously.

Mr. KADOORIE proposed the re-election of Mr. Hutton Potts as auditor.

Mr. T. F. HOUGH seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN:—Gentlemen, that business having been disposed of, we have now to consider the future, but before making any proposition or even laying before you the alternatives that confront us, it would be well, I think, that you should hear what Mr. Hughes has to say of his experience at the mines and of the result of his observations, which I am sure he will give you with great pleasure.

Mr. W. KERFOOT HUGHES then addressed the meeting. He said: "Gentlemen, I think we might usefully pass over the subjects referred to by Mr. Lock in the first part of his report, for the reason that it deals with matters which do not immediately concern us. I agree with Mr. Lock regarding the mode of future treatment of the clayey surface subsoil at Kalumpang and at Swah. The work should be done as suggested in paragraphs 28 and 29 in a puddling machine, erected on the spot, there being abundance of water at both places. The hill at the North end of the Swah valley which divides this valley from the Batu valley is considered to be the line where the country assumes a more normal character, and which would form the southernmost limit of our future field of operations wherein genuine mining development work would be done. I shall therefore confine my observations to the central zone of this area, and endeavour to prove that the opinion given in Mr. Lock's report, paragraphs 31 to 37, has curiously enough, since neither authority ever met the other, been confirmed by a report which was written in 1890 by Mr. H. M. Becher, A.R.S.M., an eminent mining expert, and the most energetic and enterprising Manager which the Punjom Company ever had the courage to engage. Bukit Glangga.—Mr. Becher referring to this outcrop remarks:—"Going northwards from the Kalumpang district and passing through the valley of the Hulu Swah and its tributary streams, throughout which the presence of gold is evident from the numerous traces of former Chinese and Malay surface workings, quartz drift is found almost continuously along the road, and at a distance of three miles from Jalis it appears in the powerful outcrop of Bukit Glangga. Here again considerable well directed prospecting work has been done, mostly in the less expensive form of costeaning trenches across the cap of the quartz outcrop, which is identical with the back of the hill ridge and follows the crest of this continuously for half a mile or so in the length of its course. A single tunnel has been driven at a convenient spot to reach the greatest depth available with the least horizontal distance, viz., 200 feet, and this has most distinctly proved the quartz, to all appearance a well formed lode of regular continuity at 90 feet below the surface. This prospect is one of the finest looking and most encouraging on the concession. The lode, as we must call it, measures 2 feet 6 inches in width, strikes almost due N. and S., and dips distinctly with clean walls 60 degrees West. As elsewhere, the country rock is clay slate, much disturbed near the lode, on the hanging wall of which is the same

elspathic rock more or less decomposed, which characterises the whole formation. The quartz too looks most favourable for gold, being stained with iron and manganese and carrying a small quantity of pyrites disseminated through it. As elsewhere, however, this quartz shows an average of low auriferous grade, though samples from some parts give comparatively good results, which encourage one to continue exploration in hope of striking it rich at another part of its course. Northwards on the descent of the hill from Bukit Glangga this outcrop disappears, and then another lode is found at the head of a small stream known as Sungei Prian." Mr. Lock in his report para. 33 refers to Bukit Glangga as a large reef not less than 6 feet wide where it outcrops, but says that not enough work had been done to convey a true impression as to the stability of the body, but that further work on it might be suspended till more promising points have been tried. No doubt Mr. Lock's reason for saying so was owing to the collapse of the funnel and to the dense overgrowth of jungle which obscured all trace of former workings. It was therefore impossible for Mr. Lock to see and judge of more than the very small portion of the reef quite recently exposed to view.—Prian.—Referring to this reef, Mr. Becher furthermore stated, that:—"Here again a fine mass of quartz is found three feet in thickness; striking N. W., S. E., and vertical. A short tunnel follows it into the hill side, at the mouth of which a good prospect of gold was got." Mr. Lock's report, para. 34, refers to this quartz reef as not being so large at the outcrop as the Bukit Glangga reef, but is distinctly good looking stone. Samples from it were broken by him at two points, about 100 yards apart, which assayed 6½ dwt. and 5½ dwt. respectively. Mr. Lock concludes by saying that this certainly merits being followed up and thoroughly prospected. Chindras.

Mr. Becher in referring to this district remarks:—"Another somewhat outlying district which, in my opinion, promises better than most parts of the concession, is Chindras, which lies further east than the localities I have included in Bukit Sarang district, at the head of a tributary of the Tualang River, the valleys of which, too, are worthy of further attention as known to contain alluvial gold. At Chindras a party of Chinese tributaries have been streaming for about two years in a small way and near their workings is a very promising outcrop of the characteristic black slate and quartz formation almost similar to Jalis in appearance, and which gave some very good samples in prospecting. This is known as Sungei Rawah." Comparing the above with para. 32 in Mr. Lock's report and from the appearance of the heavy reef gold brought in by the tributaries, up to the present time, there cannot be a doubt that the matrix carrying such gold must be exceedingly rich and will be found by persistent development work, and this is what Mr. Lock suggests by desiring to see a systematic testing of what he describes as a very strong and permanent-looking quartz reef 3 to 4 feet thick, carrying much mineral and having well-defined walls. Mr. Becher in conclusion refers to the Bukit Sarang district, which is situated at the head of the Tualang River and runs in a north-westerly direction. He adds:—"Bukit Sarang lode itself is one of the most disappointing of our discoveries, being strong and massive in appearance, but of the poorest description of quartz. Still there has been much alluvial gold got in the valleys round about this outcrop, and in the continuation of its strike north-westwards, at a place called Gubau, the prospects appear more encouraging, and to the eastwards of Bukit Sarang prospect workings have proved other powerful outcrops at Bukit Kota, Bukit Tuba, and Sungei Ketch; and the auriferous formation is traced in its extension north and westwards to the vicinity of the limestone cliffs called Gua Sai and Gua Bama. In reference to these and other places Mr. Lock in para. 37 also informs us that the list of already discovered lodes is by no means exhausted, in fact, that the northern portion of the estate, especially towards Goa, where a very striking limestone formation exists, is seamed with lodes. The Manager's annual report for last year, which is printed on page 2 of the Report now presented to you, para. 4, also tells you that the chief feature of the year has been the location of a large quantity of crushing stuff, and of extensive alluvial deposits, in the Goa district. The discovery

of two promising reefs, one at Bukit Prenoh, which is 2 feet 6 inches thick, carrying good gold; and the other reef, which is a distance of $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles to the south-east of it, and from which traces of gold can be obtained from any portion of the lode, which is 7 feet wide. Gubau.—Here again Mr. Lock points out in para. 35 in his report, that quite pretentious work had been done, and that two tests were made by him of the shaft stone which is lying at grass in obscured heaps, assayed $11\frac{1}{2}$ dwt. and 4 dwt. respectively, and adds, that it would be folly to neglect further investigation. Messrs. John Taylor and Sons, a distinguished firm of mining engineers in London, reported upon the Gubau district, and the shaft alluded to in Mr. Lock's report was the outcome of their recommendation. Messrs. John Taylor & Sons in their report stated:—

"That the one and all important work that is strongly recommended to be vigorously proceeded with is the sinking of a shaft on the Gubau lode, as the future of the mine depends on the development of the lode in depth. Small prospect drifts should also be put in at likely places, and prospecting work generally should be carried on because it is reasonable to expect the discovery of other valuable reefs. The fact that the leaders and clay formation overlying the cap of the lode have already produced nearly 500 ozs. of gold augurs well for the future prospects of the Gubau Mine and the extensions of same, and is of itself sufficient inducement to incur the necessary expenditure for the erection of machinery, and for the developments recommended, seeing that the continuity of quartz matter in vein shape has been opened up for a length of 1,300 feet has already been fairly well proved by the different tunnels and workings thereon. We think that there is every probability of a successful mining enterprise being established at Gubau if our recommendations are carried out. The indications and facilities for economical development both at Mulumet and at Sungei Rusa are also of a very encouraging nature, and fully justify further exploration at those centres." Assays made by them of many samples taken from various parts of these workings gave very good results; the best was from two samples taken out of the upper tunnel at Mulumet, which gave 6ozs. 21gr. and 2ozs. 20gr. respectively. The highest of the Gubau samples was 2ozs. 4dwt., 22gr., being the average of two assays made of ore broken in the No. 1 Main Cutting; the next was from the Intermediate level, which yielded 1oz. 7dwt. 18gr. and 17dwt. 23gr. respectively for the two samples tried. There were besides 7 other samples taken from several places on the mine which gave 11dwt. 10gr.—3dwt. 22gr.—2dwt. 14gr. and 1dwt. 7gr. for ton. The sample from Sungei Rusa assayed 5dwt. 5gr. It is true that you have heard from time to time of equally good, if not even of better results than these, but you must remember that those were obtained from rich patches in the disturbed auriferous land which we are now forced to abandon upon the assurance of a geological expert opinion that it was unlikely, if not impossible, for a permanent lode or reef to exist, and which is confirmed by a sad experience, as we have signally failed to find any after many years of diligent search. Now, gentlemen, you have heard the opinion of Messrs. John Taylor & Sons upon the Gubau, Mulumet, and Sungei Rusa districts, and what Mr. Becher and Mr. Lock—two eminent mining experts—have had to say upon other portions of your concession, the northern section of which contains many strong reefs as distinguished from the auriferous patches hitherto worked southwards, where our attention has been concentrated, and, as you have heard, where it was unlikely that a permanent or strong lode could form. These opinions seem to be sufficiently encouraging to warrant a further test in the more settled country in the north, but what the result of such a test would be, I am not expert enough to tell, though from the appearance of the various outcrops and reefs referred to, which I have been to see, examined, and questioned the miners in regard to them, I am not afraid personally, to venture on this new enterprise and to put money and work into it, and can hardly imagine that you will willingly allow your claims and chances of future profit to lapse without an attempt to at least prove the most

important of these reefs. I may add that the Government of Pahang are at present favourable to an initiation of an active policy in genuine development work, and would probably be disposed to grant State aid to carrying on bona-fide mining work, provided we can show that we have the working capital necessary to develop some of these reefs. The question therefore resolves itself into this:—Are you prepared to go on, or are you going to allow some other Company to develop these reefs, discovered during years of costly work which has been done at your expense?

The CHAIRMAN:—Gentlemen.—You have now heard what Mr. Hughes had to say about your property. He has compared the remarks of Mr. Lock on the promising country with those of earlier authorities, and has found in them strong points of agreement. You now know, as well as the Directors can know or can tell you, the best and worst of your property. It remains for you to say what you will do with it. Before I go further, however, it may be as well to remind you that if our impecunious condition had not brought us to a full stop, the attitude of the Pahang Government in reference to the labour clause of our lease would necessarily have done so. As you are no doubt aware, this clause provides for employment on the workings of a certain number of hands. This is inserted, very wisely, in all mining leases as a precaution against speculators acquiring such leases and holding them merely with a view to gaining an unearned increment on the value. Well, I am bound to confess that never, at any time in the history of the Company, have we been able to properly comply with the requirements of the Labour Clause, but the Government, so long as it saw we were endeavouring to develop our concession, did not press for a penalty or seek to unduly hamper us. They knew that we had put far more dollars into the soil than we were taking out, and they possessed their souls in patience. When, however, it became apparent to them that we were near the end of our resources, and that the efforts of the Company were confined to surface work (this has latterly been the case) then they became imperative, and they now require that we shall furnish sufficient capital to develop the concession or that we shall surrender the whole or at any rate a portion of our concession. In fact it has become imperative that we should surrender a very large portion of our concession; but as a matter of fact we should lose very little by doing so. Since the postponement of this meeting, we have received from the Resident-General of Pahang a letter dated May 17th, in continuation of some correspondence had with Mr. Hughes whilst he was at Singapore, and I will read to you the concluding portion of it:—"His Excellency, after full consideration of the subject, came to the conclusion that no extension of time can be given, but that if prior to the 1st September next the Punjom Mining Company apply for a fresh concession of, say, 10 square miles within the area of their present concession, and can show that they can find sufficient capital for properly developing such concession, their application will receive favourable consideration with a view to the issue of a lease under the mining enactment in force at the time, the existing lease being cancelled." In any case the authorities did not intend to continue to allow the Company so large a concession unless we are prepared to comply with the labour clauses, and we could never comply with those clauses because we should probably never have sufficient capital to do so. With regard to the area of ten square miles, it would be possible to include in that nearly all the valuable reefs and lodes referred to by Mr. Hughes with the exception of Mulumet and Sungei Rusa, as they are all in a straight line extending due north from our headquarters. This, gentlemen, therefore is the position. We must either subscribe fresh capital or give up the lease and liquidate. The assets you possess are valuable if you intend to employ them, but I must point out to you that most of them are either of an unrealisable character or else they can only be realised at a great loss. Thus you have at the mines various roads, bridges, and buildings, all of which cost much money to provide, but none of such assets would produce anything to speak of. Then the tramway, trucks, bullock carts, live stock, machinery,

mill plant, timber, and stores would not realise anything like their cost. Finally the preference shareholders would take whatever small dividend there might be to receive. If, on the other hand, you decide to reconstruct you can start clear with a valuable property, a certain amount of plant ready to hand, a magnificent water power, and no liabilities beyond that represented by the shares, and you could write down the value of these to a figure on which it should not be difficult to pay dividends. I am not here to-day as a partisan; I am here to record your decision and see it carried into effect. I have endeavoured to make the alternatives perfectly clear to you. You will recognise without difficulty that there is no middle course open to us. Of course we can do nothing definite to-day beyond taking a show of hands on the course that commends itself to the meeting, and I should be glad to hear from shareholders which plan they are in favour of—voluntary liquidation and winding up, or voluntary liquidation and reconstruction, transferring all the property to the new company.

Mr. JOSEPH: Has the Board any plan to lay before the shareholders?

The CHAIRMAN: Yes; it is simply this: To form a new Company to have a capital of \$300,000 in 100,000 ordinary shares of \$3 each, \$2 paid up, and the balance to be called up at the discretion of the directors. The capital to be issued as follows:—

(30,000) shares to the present ordinary shareholders in exchange for their existing scrip on payment of \$2 per share, with a liability of \$1 remaining.

18,000 shares (fully paid up) to preference shareholders in exchange for their \$1 shares and interest accrued thereon.

22,000 deferred shares, of the value of \$3 each, to be offered to the public at a small premium.

Mr. JOSEPH: Don't you think it would be better to liquidate the old Company altogether, and leave the shareholders to take shares in the new Company if they like? Under the plan you propose they will be dragged in whether they wish it or not.

The CHAIRMAN: The proposal would have to be adopted by a three-fourths' majority of the shareholders before it could be acted upon. I am afraid it would be rather difficult to carry out the plan you suggest, Mr. Joseph. What is more, you would lose a great deal of time, and time is of importance, as according to the notice we have received from the Pahang Government we must come to a decision by the 1st September.

Mr. JOSEPH: I want to know whether, under your plan, a shareholder if he does not want to participate in the new company will be compelled to join?

The CHAIRMAN: We might purchase his shares at market value.

Mr. JOSEPH:—Suppose he wants to leave his claim?

The CHAIRMAN:—He could do so.

Mr. JOSEPH:—It would not be compulsory on him—

The CHAIRMAN:—The shares would lapse.

Mr. T. F. HOUGH: Don't you think an alternative scheme might be considered under which we might escape the expense of liquidation and the delay by having another issue of preference shares on the same lines as the existing preference shares, but having only a second claim?

The CHAIRMAN: I should be very favourable to that if I thought there would be any chance of their being subscribed.

Mr. JOSEPH remarked that the whole of the original preference shares were not taken up.

Mr. HOUGH said he had no resolution to propose, but it had just occurred to him that the expenses of liquidation might be avoided and the necessities of the case met by an issue of preference shares to have a second claim on the assets.

The CHAIRMAN—I am afraid, Mr. Hough, your proposal is quite impracticable for several reasons. First of all, it would be very difficult to get the shares subscribed, because they would only come after the present preference shares, and the assets would not be sufficient to satisfy the first preference shareholders. In the second place, I am afraid the Pahang Government would say that any amount we are likely to get under that plan would be too small to carry on

development work on anything like a reasonable scale. In mining on reefs you will have to do a good deal of sinking; it would not be scratching the earth in future. I regret myself that Gubau was abandoned. It was abandoned by our late manager—or rather before he was appointed, because it was thought that they had sunk deep enough, and other prospects had seemed to the Board as well as to the mining managers more valuable and less speculative. Another reason for abandoning Gubau was its distance from the mill, which rendered transport of the ore expensive and difficult. The miners' houses too were situated a great distance away, and the miner in charge got rather disheartened, probably because he was alone, and he advocated giving up the shaft. Had we retained it, however, we should have had to lay a tramway to the mill.

Mr. HOUGH: You suggest giving the preference shareholders fully paid-up shares in the new company. Now is it not possible to arrange for those who have borne the heat and burden of the day to have some concession made to them? If you are going to keep on bleeding them you will have great difficulty in getting money, sir.

The CHAIRMAN: I see that difficulty.

Mr. HOUGH suggested that holders of fully paid-up shares might be given a concession of, say, one free share in the new company for every five.

The CHAIRMAN:—I was thinking whilst you were speaking that something might be done in this way, though I am not very much in favour of it myself—say that the present shareholders should get their shares for \$4 and one dollar be considered as already paid. I quite sympathise with the ordinary shareholders, but I do not see how it is possible to give any special consideration to the ordinary shareholders.

Mr. HOUGH: You won't get the money unless you do.

The CHAIRMAN: The whole matter is difficult.

Mr. HOUGH: There are men on your registers who for the last twenty years have been paying, paying, and they are called on again without anything being given them, but the preference shareholders are to be paid for their preference shares and to get accrued interest as well.

The CHAIRMAN: That is in the nature of things. The shareholders knew they were giving away their security when they issued preference shares, and we must stand by it.

Answering Mr. Joseph, the CHAIRMAN said they might perhaps suggest to the preference shareholders that they should accept ordinary shares with \$2 paid up, and a liability of \$1.

Mr. JOSEPH: I do not think they will accept it. Have you consulted them?

The CHAIRMAN: No.

Mr. JOSEPH: Suppose they say, "We won't accept your terms; we want cash," you can't force them?

The CHAIRMAN: No; we cannot force them. The preference shares are held by a comparatively small number of persons. We might call a meeting of them and see whether they would accept such a proposition.

Mr. JOSEPH:—Would a majority decide?

The CHAIRMAN:—Yes, I think so. I cannot give you a legal opinion. It is possible that a minority would refuse to accept, but then I think they would come under the Limited Liability Companies Acts, which would compel them to accept the market value of their shares. If you have any concrete scheme to propose we shall be happy to receive it in the meantime. The only thing we can do now is to take the sense of the meeting as to whether liquidation and reconstruction is desirable, and if that resolution is passed—it would not bind us to anything—we should call a meeting and submit resolutions. The Board would be glad if the shareholders would nominate two or more of their number to consult with and assist the directors by suggestions as to the details and terms on which the new Company should be formed. Subject to that I will propose:— "That this meeting is in favour of voluntarily winding up the present company and transferring the same to a new company to be formed, the terms and conditions to be arranged."

Mr. JOSEPH seconded, and the resolution was agreed to.

It was suggested that Mr. Joseph and Mr. Kadoorie should assist the directors with advice, but neither seemed anxious to serve, and Mr. Kadoorie expressed the opinion that the Directors could manage the business themselves.

The CHAIRMAN said that if the shareholders preferred, the Directors could call a private meeting for the purpose of receiving suggestions as to the terms and conditions on which the new company should be formed. That being all the business, he thanked them for their attendance.

STAR FERRY CO., LD.

The sixth ordinary annual meeting of the above Company was held at the Company's office, 2, Connaught Road, at noon on the 1st inst. Those present were Hon. Sir C. P. Chater, C.M.G. (chairman), Messrs. A. J. Raymond, N. A. Siebs (director), H. Schubart, D. Nowrojee, I. P. Madar, and E. Osborne (secretary).

The SECRETARY having read the notice convening the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN said:—Gentlemen, the report and accounts having been in your hands for several days, I will with your permission take them as read. The nett profit for the past year shows a considerable increase on that of the previous period, as the result of increased traffic combined with a diminution in working expenses, more especially in the cost of coal. Included in the profit and loss balance is a sum of \$36,550, which represents the difference between the written down value of the *Guiding Star* and *Morning Star* and the price at which they were sold. This might appear at first sight as profit, but in reality it represents (at least to a large extent) the accumulated savings of previous years which have been written off the boats, and which were consequently of greater value than they appeared in the books; and in view of this it is proposed to distribute, in addition to dividend, a bonus of 4 per cent., which, however, should not be regarded in any sense as dividend in disguise, as there is at present nothing to justify anticipations of a regular 22 per cent. return on capital. With the new boats, the first of which is expected to be ready within the month, it is proposed to inaugurate changes in the time table which will still further improve the service, for your directors, whilst regarding dividends as the main object of the company, are alive to the necessity for continual improvement, and they think that in a business of this nature it pays shareholders best to satisfy public requirements. Arrangements are practically concluded by which the ferry wharf at Kowloon will be moved further to the south, opposite a new 100 foot road leading direct to Robinson Road, which will doubtless be welcome news to Kowloon residents, who will then no longer have to thread their way through a maze of cargo work; and advantage will be taken to build a wharf more suitable to the requirements of the Ferry. Before proposing the adoption of the report and accounts I shall be pleased to answer any questions.

After a pause the CHAIRMAN said: There being no questions, I beg to propose that the report and accounts be passed.

Mr. SCHUBART seconded and the motion was carried unanimously.

Mr. NOWROJEE proposed that Mr. N. A. Siebs be re-elected a director.

Mr. MADAR seconded, and it was carried.

Mr. SCHUBART proposed that Mr. W. H. Potts be re-elected auditor.

Mr. MADAR seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN said:—That is all the business, gentlemen. Dividend warrants can be had on application at Kowloon, where the Company's office now is. Thank you for your attendance.

During one of the latest engagements at Port Arthur, two eagles were caught on one of the masts of the Japanese cruiser *Idzumo*, and after the fight another was caught on the same ship, then on her way to the base. These birds were named *Ichiro* (first son), *Niro* (second son), and *Saburo* (third son). They have been sent to the Imperial Headquarters.

AMOY NOTES.

Amoy, 27th May.

GOLF HANDICAP.

The final round of the handicap for the Farewell Cup presented by Mr. W. H. Wallace on his departure for England, gave rise to a prolonged struggle on the E-mng Kang Links between Messrs. J. McArthur and C. J. Weed. The latter eventually carried off the prize, nineteen holes having been played.

EMPIRE DAY.

The 24th was not allowed to pass entirely without celebration, although, owing to the absence of vessels in port, the customary bunting was not in evidence. In the afternoon there was a children's party at Way Foong, where small patriots were to be seen "demonstrating" with Union Jacks and Royal Standards and generally holding high revel.

TEA STEAMERS.

On Sunday last the din of fire-crackers and bombs disturbed the slumbers of those who were trying to snatch forty winks after tiffin. Enquiry elicited the intelligence that the *Tartar* had arrived, and being the first of the tea steamers calling here this season the Chinese were letting off a fusillade to get "good joss."

HONGKONG.

The visitors to the City Hall Library and Museum for the week ending 29th May, 1904, were 186 non-Chinese and 88 Chinese to the former, and 68 non-Chinese and 1,298 Chinese to the latter institution.

The appeal by Messrs. Lutgens, Einstmann & Co. against the cancellation of their arms licence by the Deputy Superintendent of Police was dismissed by the Chief Justice. It appears that the Ordinance stipulates that such an appeal can only lie if made to the Governor in Council.

Mr. George Thomas, clerk and librarian of the Supreme Court, will resign his appointment at the end of the present month, to join the Hongkong Electric Tramway Co. Mr. Thomas has been in the Supreme Court library for 11 years. He assisted Mr. Kyshe in compiling the following books, viz.:—Kyshe's History of the Courts of Hongkong, Kyshe's The Law and Privileges relating to Colonial Attorneys-General, Kyshe's The Law and Privileges relating to the Attorney-General and Solicitor-General of England, Kyshe's The Law and Customs relating to Gloves. Mr. Thomas during his long services had made friends with all the members of the Bar; he was a meritorious officer, and thoroughly conversant with the duties of his office.

Messrs. A. S. Watson & Co. removed into their new premises in Alexandra Buildings on Monday, and their old place in Queen's Road was closed up. Their new Dispensary is a very handsome one, fully justifying its claims to being the finest of its kind in China. In the first place the store is very advantageously situated, just opposite the Hongkong Hotel. Then the angular shape of the premises allows of very great window space, which is fully taken advantage of. The windows present a capital appearance, even in their present unfinished condition. When completed they will be one of the chief features of Des Voeux Road. The interior is equally pleasing to the eye. On entering the place one finds one's self in the large, airy, and well-lit dispensing hall, with the counter at the upper end, and on the floor a large number of glass show-cases filled with various wares. In the windows also the shelves are all of plate-glass. The cases and shelves were brought out from home, and arrived without a single breakage having occurred. The whole arrangement of the dispensary is modelled on the London West End chemists'. Electric fans and electric light are fitted throughout. At the ends of the counter are two doors, one leading to the dispensing-room proper and the other to the wine and spirit department. The offices are situated on the first floor. As the "fitting" operations were begun only on Saturday afternoon, the fact that they were completed by on Monday morning speaks well for the energy and willingness of the staff.

COMMERCIAL.

SILK.

CANTON, 21st May, 1904. First crop.—As many Filatures have abstained from buying Cocoons, the export of 1st crop silk will be considerably reduced. Arrivals come in very slowly and in small quantities only. Nevertheless the cocoon market in the interior is still very firm, owing to the purchases made for the consumption of native looms. Second crop.—Prospects for this crop are so far very favourable owing to the fine weather, but definite details on the yield will not come to hand for another week. Filatures.—Business during the past fortnight has been very moderate, total transactions amounting to only about 400 Bales, composed chiefly of spot cargo. European buyers show little enthusiasm, though holders are ready to entertain reasonable concessions. From sales made we quote 1st crop silk: Wing Cheong Sing 11/13 at \$865, Wing King Lun 11/13 at \$780 Wing Wo Lun 13/15 at \$765, Chun Sun Hang 16/18 at \$640, Hing Lun 13/15-14/18 at \$670. Short-reels.—Rule quiet at rather cheap rates, offers of 1st crop fail to attract much attention from American buyers. Waste silk.—Very little doing, prices exceedingly firm for old season stock, which is now practically nil.

SUGAR.

Hongkong, 3rd June.—There is no change in the position of the market as when last reported. Shekloong, No. 1, White.....\$8.55 to \$9.60 pels. Do. " 2, White..... 7.65 to 7.70 " Do. " 1, Brown..... 6.00 to 6.05 " Do. " 2, Brown..... 5.90 to 5.95 " Swatow, No. 1, White..... 8.40 to 8.45 " Do. " 2, White..... 7.50 to 7.55 " Do. " 1, Brown..... 5.85 to 5.90 " Do. " 2, Brown..... 5.65 to 5.70 " Foochow Sugar Candy12.80 to 12.85 " Shekloong "10.90 to 10.95 "

RICE.

HONGKONG, 3rd June.—The prices are the same as when last reported. Saigon, Ordinary\$2.65 to \$2.70 " Round, good quality 3.85 to 3.90 " Long 3.95 to 4.00 Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2 2.75 to 2.80 " Garden, " No. 1 3.20 to 3.25 " White, 4.25 to 4.30 " Fine Cargo 4.40 to 4.45 "

OPIUM.

Quotations are:—Allowance net to 1 catty. 31st May. Malwa New\$1040 to \$1080 per picul. Malwa Old\$1100 to \$1140 do. Malwa Older\$1200 to 1240 do. Malwa V. Old\$1260 to 1280 do. Persian fine quality\$880 to — do. Persian extra fine\$900 to — do. Patna New\$1260 to — per chest. Patna Old\$1262½ to — do. Benares New\$1225 to — do. Benares Old\$1225 to — do.

HONGKONG, 2nd June.

The movements in our various Opium markets have been as follows:—

Malwa, Patna, Benares, Persian.				
Stocks as per circular of				
19th May, 1904.	1,318	1,775	1,423	2,555
May, 18th Imports per Coromandel	161	100	—	96
" 24th " " Kun Sang	—	739	425	—
" 30th " " G. Apar	—	325	115	—
	1,464	2,939	1,963	2,660
Less Exports to Shanghai	—	215	285	—
Less Exports to East and West Coast Ports including Local Consumption for the fortnight.	94½	483	163	112

Estimated Stocks this day .. 1,809½ 2,241 1,515 2,538

Bengal.—Owing to the heavy decline in Benares at the sale held yesterday the market is very unsettled and quotations are nominally \$1,245 for New Benares, \$1,260 for Old Patna and \$1,220 for Old Benares.

Malwa.—The market is quiet but prices are steady.

New	\$1,040/1,060
2 years old	\$1,080/1,100
3 " "	\$1,130/1,150
4-5 " "	\$1,230
Oldest	\$1,280

Persian.—There is no change to report.

COAL.

The arrivals of coal up to date at Hongkong have been 46,000 tons of Japanese coal and 7,000 tons of New Zealand coal, all sold; and 22,500 tons of Japanese coal are expected to arrive shortly.

COTTON.

HONGKONG, 3rd June.—Small sales at last rates, closing quiet. Stock about 2,100 bales. Bombay..... 28.50 to 30.00 picul Bengal (New), Rangoon } 28.50 to 32.00 " and Dacca..... } Shanghai and Japanese, 31.00 to 32.00 " Tunghow and Ningpo, 31.00 to 32.00 " Sale:—200 bales.

YARN.

Mr. Eduljee, in his report, dated Hongkong, May 6th, says:—The demand mentioned in last report has been experienced, but has been characterised by extreme caution on the part of dealers, as the expected enquiry from the country had not reached the proportions anticipated. Settlements reported are consequently small and amount to about 5,000 bales, being confined almost entirely to favourite chops, prices remaining with little alteration as those last given. Holders are firm and, strengthened by telegraphic advices from Bombay, are not inclined to listen to the representations of dealers of a weak and declining market in the interior. Stocks are running unusually low, and the question of supply is giving dealers some concern, as what with restricted supplies and late heavy exports to Shanghai, very little is coming forward for sale, and they must shortly find it necessary to place further orders to meet the customary summer demand next month. Meanwhile the market closes quiet but steady.

Local Manufacture:—Business with the local mill is showing some improvement and sales of 750 bales No. 10s and 25 bales No. 12s at \$114½ to \$115 and \$116 respectively are reported.

Japanese Yarn.—Continues firm and prices steady: about 300 bales No. 20s changing hands at \$136½ to \$138.

Raw Cotton:—Cotton is quieter under the altered condition of the market for the manufactured article, and no business is reported either in Indian or Chinese descriptions. Unsold stocks are estimated at 1,300 bales Bengal and 250 bales Thoonchow. Quotations are Indian \$29 to \$32 and Chinese \$31 to \$33.

Exchange on India after some slight fluctuations closes to-day at Rs. 134½ for T/T and Rs. 134½ for Post. On Shanghai 71½ and on Yokohama 88½.

The undernoted business in imported and local yarn is reported from Shanghai during the fortnight ended 21st ultimo, viz:—

Indian:—A good demand has continued especially for No. 10s which are firmer, sales aggregating 11,000 bales with an estimated unsold stock of 21,000 bales, market closing strong.

Japanese.—Have met with an increased demand, but prices show little or no change. Sales during the interval amounting in the aggregate to fully 3,000 bales on the basis of Tls 93½ to Tls. 99½ for No. 16s and Tls. 99½ to Tls. 102½ for No. 20s.

Local:—The new business of the fortnight comprises only 200 bales No. 10s Shanghai Cotton Mill at Tls. 90½.

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

In their Report on the Shanghai Piece Goods Trade, Messrs. Noel, Murray & Co., under date 26th May, say:—After all the reported evacuation of Newchwang by the Russian troops has turned out to be incorrect, although they did withdraw the greater part at one time. The news of the disaster to the Japanese fleet, however, was made the excuse for the reoccupation in force, and things there in consequence remain in statu quo. Some shipments of miscellaneous goods have been made, but nothing further in the way of Piece Goods and Yarn. It is momentarily expected that news of some great fight will come in, and seeing that it will in all probability have a very important bearing on the final issue, it is awaited with considerable anxiety. This being Whit week, when our Manchester friends observe a more or less close holiday, it was not in the nature of things that there should be much doing here, nor has there been in the aggregate, though one or two of the fairly large holders are beginning to persuade themselves that it is useless to wait any longer to get replacing cost for their goods, knowing full well that if there is a decline of any importance in Manchester buyers here will immediately lower their offers. In consequence some sales of Manchester makes are reported to have been effected at prices that show very satisfactory results, but are still considerably under present home cost. There is without doubt a good demand in the country, but it is being filled to a great extent by the second hand holders, whose supplies must become exhausted before long, and even now there is more enquiry. Clearances usually show a falling off at this particular season of the year as compared with March and April, but so far have kept up very well. An important edict has been issued by the Peking Government to the Viceroy and Go-

vernors of Provinces commanding them to abolish the Likin Taxes from the first of the next China Year and to devise means of raising Revenue otherwise. The opinion here amongst Foreigners is that it will be exceedingly difficult to change.

Telegraphic advices from Manchester this morning give quotations reflecting the drop in Cotton to some extent (the Liverpool price being 7.24d for Mid-American and 7½ for Egyptian), and though manufacturers of China makes are undoubtedly anxious to get orders, and are not at all strong, the market there is hardly likely to come down to the level of this while the good Indian demand continues. According to the Board of Trade returns the shipment of Grey and Bleached Cottons to Hongkong and China for the three months ending 31st March last was 115,058,800 yards, against 112,118,100 yards last year, and 105,000,000 yards according to the private monthly advices. It is interesting to note that while the increase in quantity is rather less than three per cent. the increase in sterling value is over twenty-one per cent! The shipments of Prints are over 33 per cent. less in quantity but only 22 per cent. less in value. In the case of Dyed goods, however, the position looks decidedly dangerous, the quantity for the three months showing an increase of 53 per cent. while the cost is 94 per cent. more! With the serious decline in Egyptian Cotton holders of these goods have just cause for alarm. There is little or no news from the States where the market seems to be easing off a little. Cotton in New York was quoted 12.42 cents for August, but only 10.90 cents for October. As regards the new crop, to quote from the American Wool and Cotton Reporter:—"The phenomenally high prices obtained for last season's crop will act as a powerful stimulant to production; and unless weather conditions should prove more unfavourable than is at all likely, in all probability a crop that will eclipse the great crop of 1898-1899 will be made. Cotton has proved such a bonanza for the grower the past season that the temptation to plant to the full extent of acreage that can be cultivated will be too much for the grower to resist. The world's demand for cotton calls for a larger crop than the south produced last year, at least 750,000 to a million bales in order to supply the needs of manufacturers and make good the shortage of the present seasons. Even with a crop of 12,000,000 bales it would no more than leave the market in a good healthful position. The grower then would be able to command a good price for his cotton and at the same time he would prevent speculators from cornering the market and allow the Manufacturer to carry on his business at a profit. Besides this it is to the advantage of Southern growers to convince European Manufacturers of their ability to supply a crop of Cotton large enough for their wants and at prices that would not be practically almost prohibitive. There has been a very strong feeling aroused among Foreign manufacturers regarding the Cotton situation this season, and it is to the obvious interest of the South to pursue such a course as will placate this feeling. If the South cannot supply them with Cotton at the fair price and in sufficient amount they will look elsewhere for it, and in the course of time will raise up competitors to contest with the South its present supremacy in supplying the world with the staple." The Yarn market here is strong, but the higher prices wanted for imported Yarns has curtailed business. A brisk demand continues in Bombay where prices are three to four taels over this. As old contracts with the Local Mills are running out, fresh ones being entered into, the sales reported this week amounting to nearly 5,000 bales. The market for Cotton is steady.

HONGKONG QUOTATIONS.

HONGKONG, 3rd June.	
Beans	\$4
Borax	\$16½
Camphor (China)	\$105
Cassia (First quality)	\$21 @ 22
" (Second ")	\$16 @ 17
" Oil	\$157½
Cloves	\$20 @ 55
Fennel Seed Oil	\$330
Galangle	\$2.70 @ 6
Glue	\$25
Grapes	\$16
Ivory	\$200 @ 600
Kississ	\$10 @ 13
Olibanum	\$5 @ 20
Rosa Oil	\$60 @ 175
Saltpetre	\$10.10 @ 10.85
Sandal wood	\$27 @ 30
" Oil	\$20 @ 400
Senna Leaves	\$4
Sugar Candy	\$10.10 @ 10.30
Vermilion	\$82½ @ 85½
Wax	\$34 @ 38½

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per P. & O. steamer *Chusan*, sailed on 21st May. For London:—2682 packages tea from Foochow, 6 cases cigars, 26 cases bristles, 5 cases bird feathers, 25 rolls matting, 150 boxes tea, 51 bales waste silk, 85 bales raw silk, 3 cases silks. For Marseilles:—50 bales raw silk, 1 case silks. For Manchester:—315 bales waste silk. For London or Manchester:—79 bales waste silk. For Milan:—40 bales raw silk. For St. Chamond:—10 bales raw silk. For Lyons:—141 bales raw silk.

Per M. M. steamer *Ernest Simons*, sailed on 31st May. For Marseilles:—230 bales raw silk, 50 bales waste silk, 66 packages human hair, 206 rolls matting, 100 cases tea, 4 cases feathers 2 cases Ylangylang oil, 2 cases cigars, 7 cases provisions, 56 packages sundries. For Lyons:—172 bales raw silk. For Milan:—95 bales raw silk. For London:—2 packages silks, &c.

SHARE REPORTS.

HONGKONG. 3rd June, 1904.—Demand continued brisk during the early part of the week under review, but latterly a lull has set in, and with few exceptions our market closes mostly with sellers at current quotations. China Sugars and Indos have again proved the chief attraction, but whilst the former have still further advanced, the latter have fallen away somewhat from the highest point realised.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have ruled steady, a few shares being obtainable at quoted rate, viz. \$667½. London has advanced to £66. Nationals have again been booked at \$38 and continue in request at that figure.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions have weakened, and a few shares are now obtainable at \$545. China Traders have sold and are in further request at \$60. North Chinas have been booked locally at Tls. 62½. Yangtszes are unchanged at \$130. Cantons, after sales at \$220, have receded to \$217½ sellers.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkong Fires are still in request at \$310. Chinas are wanted at \$85½, no shares being obtainable under \$86.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton, and Macao are in some request at the reduced rate of \$30, after sales at \$31½ and \$31. Indo-Chinas, after advancing rapidly from \$119 to \$123½ with sales at intermediate rates, have fallen away, and a few shares are now said to be obtainable at \$119 cash. A fair forward business has also been transacted at rather less than equivalent cash rates up to \$129 for December delivery. China and Manilas have sold at \$23 to \$26½ but close easier with sellers at \$26. Douglasses have been booked and can still be procured at \$36. Star Ferries continue in request at \$32 (old) and \$23 (new) ex the dividend and bonus of 22 per cent. for the year ending 30th April 1904, paid on the 2nd instant. Shell Transports have sold at 25/- and further lots could probably be placed at this rate.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have continued to advance, and a considerable business has been transacted at rapidly rising rates up to \$165 cash at which it is probable that further buyers could be found. Luzons continue neglected at \$9 sellers.

MINING.—Punjoms are still on offer at 40 cents. Raubs after sales at \$7½ are on offer to a small extent at \$7.

DOCKS, WHARVES, AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have sold at \$215 and close steady with probable buyers at the rate. Kowloon Wharves have weakened and are on offer at \$110. New Amoy Docks are neglected at \$30. Farnhams have advanced to Tls. 155 with buyers both locally and in the north.

LANDS, HOTELS, AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have been booked at \$158 and are now procurable at \$157½. Kowloon Lands have sold and are in further request at \$36. West Points have improved to \$58 buyers. Hongkong Hotels are steady with probable buyers at \$137 after a small sale at \$138. Humphreys Estates (old) have sold at \$12½, and (new) at \$4 and \$4½, the latter closing in further request. Shanghai Lands are unchanged at Tls. 109.

COTTON MILLS.—Quotations from the North are as follows:—Ewos Tls. 30 sellers, Soy Chees Tls. 160 sellers, Internationals and Laon Kung Mows quiet at Tls. 25 and Tls. 32½ respectively. Locally there is no change, and Hongkongs are still in the market at \$14½.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Island Cements have continued to advance, and are now enquired for at \$28½. A. S. Watsons, after sales at \$13½, ex the final dividend of 50 cents per share for 1903, are said to be obtainable at \$13½. Ices have advanced to \$220 buyers. China Providents have sold at \$9 and are procurable at \$9½. China Light and Powers have improved to \$5½ buyers.

MEMOS.—China Light and Power Co., Ltd., ordinary yearly meeting on the 9th June, transfer books close on the 6th instant. A. S. Watson & Co., Ltd., extraordinary general meeting on the 15th June.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		
Hongkong & Shanghai	\$125	\$667½, sellers (L'don, £66)
Natl. Bank of China		
A. Shares	28	\$38, sales & buyers
B. Shares	28	\$38, buyers
Foun. Shares	21	\$10, buyers
Insurance—		
Union	\$100	\$545, sellers
China Traders	\$25	\$60, buyers
North China	25	Tls. 62½, sales
Yangtsze	\$60	\$13
Canton	\$50	\$217½, sellers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$310, buyers
China Fire	\$20	\$85½, buyers
Steamship Coys.—		
H. Canton and M.	\$15	\$50, buyers
Indo-China S. N.	\$10	\$119, sellers
China and Manila	\$50	\$26, sellers
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$36, sellers
Star Ferry	\$10	\$32, ex div. buyers
	\$5	\$23, ex div. buyers
Shell Transport and Trading Co.	21	25/-, sales
Do. pref. shares	210	28. 10s.
Refineries—		
China Sugar	\$100	\$164, buyers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$9, sellers
Mining—		
Punjom	\$11	40 cts., sellers
Do. Preference	\$1	25 cts., buyers
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	\$490
Raubs	18-10d.	\$7, sellers
Docks, Etc.—		
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$215
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$110, sellers
New Amoy Dock	\$6½	\$30
S. C. F. Boyd & Co.	Tls. 100	Tls. 156, buyers
Land and Building—		
Hongkong Land Inv.	\$100	\$157½, sellers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$46½, buyers
West Point Building	\$50	\$58, buyers
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$137, sellers
Humphreys Estate	\$10	\$12½, sales
	\$2½	\$4½, buyers
Shanghai Land Ins. Co., Ltd.	Tls. 50	Tls. 109
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 50	Tls. 30, sellers
International	Tls. 73	Tls. 25
Laou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 32½
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 160, sellers
Hongkong	\$10	\$14½, sellers
Green Island Cement	\$10	\$28½, buyers
China-Borneo Co., Ltd.	\$12	\$10, sellers
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$13.50, ex div. sc.
Hongkong Electric	\$10	\$13½, buyers
	\$5	\$7½, buyers
Hongkong & C. Gas	210	\$150
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$140, sellers
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$48
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$220, buyers
H. H. L. Tramways	\$100	\$280
Hk. Steam Water-Boat Co., Ltd.	\$10	\$16½, buyers
Dairy Farm	\$6	\$14½, buyers
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$37, sellers
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	12/6	\$5, sellers
United Asbestos	\$4	\$10½, buyers
Do.	\$10	\$210, buyers
Tebrau Planting Co.	\$5	\$1, sellers
China Prov. L. & M.	\$10	\$9½, sellers
Watkins Ltd.	\$10	\$7½, buyers
China Light & Power Co., Ltd.	\$10	\$5½, buyers
Powell, Ltd.	\$10	\$10½, sellers
Shanghai and Hongkong Dyeing and Cleaning Co., Ltd.	\$50	\$50
Canton, Hongkong Ice Cigar Companies—	\$10	\$10, nominal
Alhambra Limited.	\$500	\$200
Phippine Tobacco Trust Co., Ltd.	\$10	\$9.75, sellers

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.

Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co., in their Share Report for the week ending 26th May, 1904, state:—The principal business during the week under review has been in Indo-Chinas, which have shown a marked rise and at closing the market is strong with buyers at Tls. 84. Shares are in steady demand also in the S. h. All other stocks have remained quiet. The T. T. rate on London today is 2/6½. Banks.—H. & S. Banks.—No business reported. The market in Hongkong is quoted \$665, the latest London quotation being £65.5s. Marine and Fire Insurance.—No business reported. Shipping.—Indos opened on the 19th with sales for May and September at Tls. 80. On the 20th May shares were placed at 80 and 81, and 82 September. On the 21st Tls. 80 and 81 were paid for cash with sales at 83 July and 83½ September, and to Hongkong for cash at \$112½. 23rd being Bank holiday no business was reported. On 24th shares were placed at 81½ cash and on 26th at 82 cash, 83 July and 84 September. At closing business has been done at 84 May settlement and shares are in strong demand. The meeting of the Directors in London we understand took place yesterday; the result of this we ought to know to-morrow. No other business in stocks under this heading is reported. Docks and Wharves.—Farnhams have remained steady throughout the week with sales for cash at 148 and 152 July. At closing there are buyers at 149 cash and 152 July. A transaction is reported in Shanghai and Hongkew Wharves at Tls. 152½ and 150 cash, and 155 August. This stock is quiet with very few enquiries either to buy or sell. Sugars.—No business reported. Mining.—A transaction is reported in Weihaiwie Golds at \$17½. The report of the Punjom Mining Co. was issued some days ago and seems very unsatisfactory. The Directors tried to revive hope in the prospects that some new reefs in the North of the concession point to improvement, but shareholders are weary of hope of this kind, which has been held out to them from time to time. Lands.—Transactions in Shanghai Lands are reported at Tls. 108 and 108½. Hongkong Lands are steady at \$159. Industrial.—Cotton Stocks continue neglected. Shanghai Ices. Demand for shares by contributors of business came freely into market, resulting in sales at Tls. 20, 22, 23 and 24. The volume of business at these rates was very small. A transaction is reported in Shanghai Water Works at Tls. 380. Langkats. The market has improved during the week opening with sales at Tls. 305 June; sales at 302½ and 305 were effected for May and for September at 320. There are buyers at these rates. Stores and Hotels.—Weeks have been placed at \$20, and Hotel des Colonies at Tls. 14. Miscellaneous.—The only transaction in stocks under this heading was in Horse Bazaars at Tls. 71½. Loans and Debentures.—No business reported.

EXCHANGE.

FRIDAY, 3rd June.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	1/9½
Bank Bills, on demand	1/9½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	1/9½
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	1/9½
Credits, at 4 months' sight	1/9½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	1/10½
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	226
Credits 4 months' sight	229½
ON GERMANY.—	
On demand	184
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	43½
Credits, 60 days' sight	44½
ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	134½
Bank, on demand	134½
ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	134½
Bank, on demand	134½
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, at sight	71½
Private, 30 days' sight	72½
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand	88½
ON MANILA.—On demand	Nom.
ON SINGAPORE.—On demand	Nom.
ON BATAVIA.—On demand	107½
ON HAIPHONG.—On demand	2½ p.m.
ON SAIGON.—On demand	2 p.m.
ON BANGKOK.—On demand	63
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate	\$11
GOLD LEAF, 130 fine, per tael	\$57.70
BAR SILVER, per oz.	25½

TONNAGE.

HONGKONG, 3rd June.—Only a few charters have been effected during the past two weeks at declining rates. From Saigon to this, 15 cents last and 18 cents now offering for small carriers; to Philippines, 34 cents last; to Java and Japan, no enquiry. From Java to this, 30 cents offering for wet sugar. From Newchwang to Canton, 43 cents last and no further demand at the moment; to Swatow, 43 cents last; to Amoy, 15 cents. Coal freights are weak. From Moji to this, \$1.40 per ton last; to Singapore, \$1.50. The following are the settlements:—

Plitvice—Australian steamer, 2,487 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$1.70 per ton.

Dagmar—Norwegian steamer, 383 tons, three trips, Touron to Canton, \$2.50 per ton.

Ivydene—British steamer, 2,277 tons, Saigon to Niigata, 40 cents per picul.

Sishan—British steamer, 815 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 38 cents per picul.

Yatshing—British steamer, 1,420 tons, Hongay to Hongkong, \$1.50 per ton.

Nanyang—German steamer, 1,060 tons, Newchwang to Canton, 75 cents per picul.

Decima—German steamer, 794 tons, Newchwang to Canton, 60 cents per picul.

Nanyang—German steamer, 982 tons, Newchwang to Canton, 43 cents per picul.

Emma Luytren—German steamer, Kwongchauwan to Singapore, 19 cents per picul.

FREIGHTS.

From Hankow, per Conference Steamers.—To London and Northern Continental ports:—Direct Steamers, Tea and General cargo 51/- per ton. Via Shanghai, Tea and General cargo 46/- per ton plus River freight. To Genoa, Marseilles or Havre:—Via Shanghai, Tea and General cargo 41/6 per ton plus River freight. To New York (overland):—Tea 14 G\$ cents per lb. gross plus River freight. To New York (via Suez):—Tea and General cargo 35/- per ton. To Shanghai:—Tea and General cargo Taels 1.80 per ton weight or measurement.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

- May—
 29, Adamastor, Portuguese cr., from Macao.
 29, Hinsang, British str., from Hongay.
 29, Kaifong, British str., from Manila.
 29, Progress, German str., from Hoihow.
 30, Belgian King, British str., from Barry.
 30, Borneo, German str., from Sandakan.
 30, Chihli, British str., from Tientsin.
 30, Chiyuen, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 30, Giang Bee, British str., from Palembang.
 30, Hermiston, British str., from New York.
 30, Mercedes, British str., from Wellington.
 30, Nanyang, German str., from Chefoo.
 30, Perla, British str., from Manila.
 30, Strassburg, German str., from Shanghai.
 31, An Pho, British str., from Saigon.
 31, Border Knight, British str., from London.
 31, Canton, British str., from Canton.
 31, Chingwo, British str., from Portland.
 31, Hailan, French str., from Pakhoi.
 31, Helene Rickmers, Ger. str., from Cardiff.
 31, Hopsang, British str., from Nagasaki.
 31, Loongsang, British str., from Manila.
 31, Meefoo, Chinese str., from Canton.
 31, Nithsdale, British str., from Moji.
 31, Opland, Norwegian str., from Japan.
- June—
 1, Amara, British str., from Koshichang.
 1, Bianca, German str., from Hamburg.
 1, Cheangchew, British str., from Singapore.
 1, Emma Luyken, Ger. str., from Hongay.
 1, Flintshire, British str., from London.
 1, Foochow, British str., from Canton.
 1, Helena, U.S. gunboat, from Swatow.
 1, Karin, Swedish str., from Chefoo.
 1, Kweiyang, British str., from Wuhu.
 1, Kwongsang, British str., from Canton.
 1, Ras Issa, French str., from Amoy.
 1, Shansi, British str., from Saigon.
 1, Simoom, British str., from Mororan.
 1, Taiping, Chinese str., from Chinkiang.
 1, Taurus, Norwegian str., from Barry.
 1, Terrier, Norwegian str., from Bangkok.
 1, Zafiro, British str., from Manila.
 2, Ballarat, British str., from Bombay.
 2, C. Diederichsen, Ger. str., from Haiphong.
 2, Diomed, British str., from Liverpool.
 2, Eastern, British str., from Kobe.
 2, Frithjof, Norwegian str., from Tamsui.
 2, Glenfalloch, British str., from Singapore.
 2, Oldenburg, German str., from Yokohama.

May— DEPARTURES.

- 2, Simla, British str., from Shanghai.
 2, Thales, British str., from Swatow.
 2, Tuckwo, British str., from Glasgow.
 2, Werneth Hall, British str., from Barry.
 2, Wuchang, British str., from Cebu.
 30, Devawongse, German str., for Swatow.
 30, Edendale, British str., for Saigon.
 30, Elisa, Rickmers, German str., for Swatow.
 30, Esang, British str., for Tientsin.
 31, Chihli, British str., for Canton.
 31, Chiyuen, Chinese str., for Canton.
 31, Ernest Simons, French str., for Europe.
 31, Haiching, British str., for Coast Ports.
 31, Kumsang, British str., for Calcutta.
 31, Queensland, British str., for Guam.
 31, Sirius, British cruiser, for Singapore.
 31, Yangtze, British str., for Shanghai.
 31, Yuensang, British str., for Manila.

June—

- 1, Apenrada, German str., for Pakhoi.
 1, Belgian King, British str., for Sasebo.
 1, Candia, British str., for Shanghai.
 1, Canton, British str., for Swatow.
 1, Empr. of China, Brit. str., for Vancouver.
 1, G. A. German str., for Saigon.
 1, Germania, German str., for Moji.
 1, Holstein, German str., for Saigon.
 1, Jacob Diederichsen, Ger. str., for Hoihow.
 1, Laertes, British str., for Moji.
 1, Marie Jansen, German str., for Moji.
 1, Meefoo, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 1, Perla, British str., for Manila.
 1, Strassburg, German str., for Hamburg.
 1, Swanley, British str., for Tientsin.
 1, Tritos, German str., for Swatow.
 2, Adamastor, Portuguese cruiser, for Macao.
 2, Chilvice, for Moji.
 2, Foochow, British str., for Shanghai.
 2, Haiching, British str., for Swatow.
 2, Hailan, French str., for Hoihow.
 2, Karin, Swedish str., for Canton.
 2, Kweiyang, British str., for Canton.
 2, Kwongsang, British str., for Shanghai.
 2, Nanshan, British str., for Amoy.
 2, Progress, German str., for Tourane.
 2, Taiping, Chinese str., for Canton.
 2, Taurus, Norwegian str., for Sasebo.
 2, Werneth Hall, British str., for Sasebo.

PASSENGER LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Gregory Apcar*, from Calcutta, Rev. and Mrs. C. H. Harvey, Rev. A. B. Caldwell, Messrs. C. H. Ware, A. C. Kingsford, M. K. Bamber, and H. Halkwoods.

Per *Ernest Simons*, for Hongkong, from Yokohama, Mr. A. J. Williams; from Kobe, Mr. and Mrs. Benzenius, Messrs. F. Watamabe, Uzesugi, and S. Miyoshi; from Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. Kadoorie, Mrs. A. Krater, Mr. and Mrs. D. Schuster, Miss S. Krater, Mr. and Mrs. Kroureich, Mrs. F. A. Pearson, Miss Florence, Messrs. J. W. Jameson, E. W. Clarke, Oppenheiser, de St. Quentin Marie, B. Brouchoud, G. Ide, B. Matsumoto, H. Gosham, C. J. Baynal, Pellen, A. C. Dierck, Lecladier, Elliott, Ronel, Vameste, St. Hotelier, and F. N. Le Pau; for Saigon, from Shanghai, Mrs. Neve, Mrs. Takahama Teri, Miss Renee Flore, Messrs. E. Nickesisk, Lecacheux, Lorris, Gaspard, Dongersky, Pichon, and Mascaretto; for Singapore, from Yokohama, Mr. Ch. Bell; from Kobe, Mr. Yamamoto; from Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. Bonnat and Mr. E. S. Fabris; for Colombo, from Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. G. Barlow; for Port Said, from Yokohama, Mr. Froise; from Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. Baiding and infant, Messrs. Zankowitch, Labinski, and Ivashinko; for Marseilles, from Yokohama, Messrs. Paul Couchoud and T. Tomita; from Shanghai, Mrs. Coquet, Mr. and Mrs. Franck and infant, Mr. and Mrs. M. Buidermann, Mr. and Mrs. Francoir and 2 children, Mr. and Mrs. Richard and infant, Miss E. Denbigh, Capt. M. P. Rene, Messrs. G. P. Denbigh, Boggio, A. Johnsford, C. T. Brandt, R. P. Lana, Bouchard, Jacques Faure, Robert, Hartung, Casale, Wall, F. Buldermann, J. Moller, H. Moller, Hoppe, A. Grevet, Castel Jean, and Andoin.

Per *Zafiro*, from Iloilo for Hongkong, Messrs. M. Marteg and child and P. Marquez Limboy.

Per *Eastern*, for Hongkong, from Kobe, Rev. J. Davies, Capt. H. Middleton, Mrs. Ashton, Madame Iwasaki, Misses J. Child, C. Neale, L. Wilkinson, Messrs. M. Pugh, R. Croll, Kit-

amura, Seishimura, G. F. Hall, J. Berry, F. Folkes, H. Douglas, E. Ferrier and R. Jenkins. Per *Curl Diederichsen*, from Haiphong, &c., Messrs. Schornburg and Otto.

Per *Ballarat*, for Hongkong, from London, Mr. H. Robinson; from Marseilles, Mrs. Noel and 2 children, Messrs. A. Bourdon, A. Roze, and E. Chabaneau; from Gibraltar, Prof. W. B. Munro; from Brindisi, Mr. T. S. Thompson; from Bombay, Mr. A. S. Ebrahamee; from Singapore, Lieut. Dyer, Rev. Borthwick, and Mr. J. Mackertoon; for Shanghai, from London, Mr. F. Pickard; from Singapore, Mr. J. Mackenzie; for Yokohama, from London, Messrs. E. James, J. Smith, A. Boyce, and Wilmer; from Marseilles, Messrs. F. Goldschmidt, O. Kramer, and R. Cleat.

Per *Simla*, from Shanghai, for Hongkong, Mrs. Gordon Dunston, Misses K. Bassett and S. Lewis, Messrs. H. Phillips, Bastian, and E. F. Hopkinson; for Bombay, Mrs. Leach's two children, Q. M. Sergt. Patterson, and Mr. F. S. Gara; for Marseilles, Mr. and Mrs. Lecachair and child; for London, Mr. and Mrs. Leach, Mrs. Consterdine, Mrs. McGee, Messrs. J. McArthur, A. S. Harris, and A. Dyson; from Yokohama, for Bombay, Mr. Isa Nisimaki.

DEPARTED.

Per *Shawmut*, from Manila, for Kobe, Miss Tamato Mio and Mr. K. Kashemote; for Yokohama, Messrs. W. B. Beard, W. O. Bruntt, and J. Hazelton, and Miss F. W. Conrad; for United States, Mrs. E. K. Dinarddie, Miss Dinarddie, Mr. and Mrs. Gessler, Pay Director and Mrs. Rand, Mr. and Mrs. Ruber, Mr. and Mrs. Bauerman, Mrs. K. M. Evans, Capt. E. A. Eckman, Messrs. Pio Reyes, J. S. Leach, M. W. Creagh, J. H. Siefert, D. F. Sullivan, R. S. McDougall, P. Lutton, G. Cantlay, Farris, C. Calhoun, V. L. Navela, J. R. Sal, B. S. Gonzales, A. B. Dapena, B. J. Trabado, E. G. Carter, W. H. Coons, M. Stewart, W. Johnson, S. Cunningham, J. Dpoly, J. P. Welch, P. Hall, and M. Fair; from Hongkong, for Nagasaki, Messrs. S. Cohn and A. Naftaly; for Kobe, Capt. Hewett, Messrs. B. F. Hamersly, R. H. Baker, V. N. Hansen, T. Chee, J. W. Osborne, and D. F. Maloney; for Yokohama, Mr. J. Ryan; for United States, &c., Mr. and Mrs. C. McDermoth and infant, Mr. and Mrs. Takashi Ito, Messrs. J. A. Wilkes, J. B. Johnson, H. Skott, and J. W. Elliott.

Per *Ernest Simons*, for Saigon, Mr. and Mrs. Kronrich, Messrs. de St. Quentin and Pellen; for Singapore, Mr. and Mrs. Webb; for Batavia, Mr. M. H. Gomes and daughter; for Bombay, Messrs. M. D. Vania and K. Edulji-Vaid; for Suez, Mrs. Clarisse Brown; for Marseilles, Messrs. A. Krappenbauer, C. G. Benzenius, and E. H. Moser; for London, Mr. Horace E. Marrow.

Per *Empress of China*, for Vancouver, &c., Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Cowey, Misses Cowey (3), Mrs. E. W. Taylor, Mrs. H. A. Woodruff and infant, Mrs. H. T. Richardson and 3 children, Mrs. T. Simcock, Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Simmers and infant, Dr. and Mrs. Rapp, Mrs. E. Moore, Mrs. and Miss Wolfson, Mr. and Mrs. Gedge and child, Mrs. Gilchrist, Mrs. W. H. Anderson and child, Mrs. W. Kleeschult, Mrs. Bradley, Mr. and Mrs. A. Vandestor, Mrs. Campbell and child, Mrs. M. Fujii, Mr. C. Sumiye, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Randall and 2 children, Mrs. Lingerie, Prof. E. Hamilton Sharp, Engr. Comdr. E. W. Cudlige, R.N., Capt. A. Hellfeld, Capt. R. A. J. Anderson, Dr. O. E. Wall, Lieut. L. H. Branson, Dr. W. M. Anderson, Dr. Fremantle, Dr. G. Zellweger, Messrs. W. J. Sommerville, K. Hansen, F. Joy, R. F. Figueras, Miguel Pla, F. Kauffmann, J. C. Sloan, F. Rollin, A. W. Barnes, N. S. P. Trimmingham, J. Roberts, W. Helms, Barry Baldwin, A. N. Small, T. A. Ball, Apcar, W. A. Lamont, F. Reyes, S. T. Wenborn, R. E. Humphreys, F. D. Barretto, J. P. O'Brien, J. B. Aitken, E. T. H. Metcalf, Bertrand, W. Kleeschult, G. E. Tucker, C. Hazelaire, H. Sheppard, F. Perry, J. L. Loir, H. Denny, J. Turrell, N. Kamiskero, T. Oida, A. Litoinoff, Yigi, R. Alton, W. F. Wenzel, D. M. Searcy, A. A. de Jesus, T. Kideo, and E. J. Hayes, Misses Bernhard Smith, V. L. Herrick, Colinessen, Bash, and F. H. Gray.

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BIRTHS.

On the 29th May, at 1, Honan Road, Shanghai, the wife of Dr. STANLEY, Health Officer, of a son, On the 2nd June, at 2, Wayside Road, Shanghai, the wife of RUTHVEN MACFARLANE, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES

On the 27th May, at the Catholic Church, Port Edward, Weihaiwei, JOHN ALFRED WILD, third son of the late PEDRO DA SILVA LOUREIRO, of Shanghai, to ADA MITCHELL, younger daughter of the late FRANK MITCHELL HARRIS, of Staines, England.

On the 6th June, at St. John's Cathedral, by the Rev. T. T. JOHNSON, M.A., MABEL DAISY, youngest daughter of the late H. L. MATHER, Hongkong, to ROBERT RODGER, Port Glasgow, Scotland.

DEATHS.

On the 1st June, at 15, Woosung Road, Shanghai, HELEN MORRISON, the beloved wife of GEORGE KOLLO, aged 24 years.

On the 2nd June, at the General Hospital, Shanghai, MARY, the beloved wife of G. W. BENNETT, of the Woosung Hotel.

On the 2nd June, at 99, Bubbling Well Road, Shanghai, Captain JOHN FARROW, late Imperial Maritime Customs.

Hongkong Weekly Press.

HONGKONG OFFICE: 14, DES VŒUX ROAD CL.
LONDON OFFICE: 131, FLEET STREET, E.C.

ARRIVAL OF MAILS.

The German Mail arrived per the steamer *Seydlitz* on the 7th inst.; and the English Mail of 13th May arrived per the steamer *Nankin*, at daylight this morning.

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

Telegrams relating to the war will be found on p. 434

Twelve days' quarantine is imposed at Saigon on arrivals from Hongkong, Swatow, and Amoy.

Shanghai residents have organised a treat for the men of the British fleet which is now at Woosung.

The S.S. *Hochheimer*, of the Hansa line, Bremen, has been purchased by the Japanese Government.

The *Pleiades* from Yokohama has arrived at Vancouver having been towed 800 miles after losing her propeller.

A proclamation by His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government, issued on Saturday, declares Amoy an infected port.

During the absence of Sir John Keane from Colombo Lord R. F. Herschell is to act as Private Secretary to His Excellency Sir Henry Blake.

The dysentery bacillus is reported in Ceylon papers to have been discovered by Dr. Aldo Castellani, in charge of the Bacteriological Institute there.

Since our last issue the Theatre stage has been occupied first by Mr. Willie Freear, a versatile entertainer, and now the Stanley Opera and Comedy Company is the attraction.

The contract for the conveyance of mails to the East has been signed with the P. & O. Company for three years. It provides for an acceleration of the service by twenty-four hours.

One of the new Japanese battleships to be built in England has been insured against building, launching, and other risks, for £1,360,000, covering hull and machinery, armour and armament.

The silk season at Shanghai is stated by Messrs. A. R. Burkhill and Sons to have been a most unprofitable one to those engaged in the silk trade, the severest losses falling upon owners of steam filatures, and of new style hand filatures.

The Shanghai Electric & Asbestos Co., Ltd. held their first annual meeting a few days ago. The company paid a dividend of eight per cent., the profits during the year being roughly 14 per cent. of the capital. Tls. 2,000 were carried forward.

A German-Dutch Company is in course of formation with a capital of Mks. 4,000,000 to lay a cable connecting the Celebes, Pelews and Philippine Islands with Shanghai. The German and Dutch Governments are giving large subsidies.

The Acting Commissioner of Customs at Yochow in his report on the trade of the port says it is to be regretted that no European Community is likely to enjoy the pure air and open plain of Yochow, doubtless the healthiest town in the Yangtse Valley.

All hope of saving the Chinese cruiser *Haitien* is practically abandoned. Attempts have been made to pump out some of her compartments, but the ground gained at low tide has been lost again with the rise of the water, and no permanent advance has been made.

The new gunboat built in Shanghai, which has been set up at the Pasig Iron Works, has sailed for the Cottobato river, and will be used by General Wood in operations against the Moros on the river. She is 60 feet long, 11 feet 6 inches beam, and draws about six feet of water. Her speed will be 10½ knots. A sister boat was shipped to Mindanao lately, in sections which will be set up under the supervision of a representative of the builders, on the lake.

An Imperial Decree orders a sum of Tls. 100,000 to be set aside from the Treasury of the Imperial Household towards the cost of organising a branch of the Red Cross Society in China.

The second division of France's Far Eastern Squadron arrived at Hongkong on the 11th inst. It consists of the cruisers *Chateau Renault*, flagship of Rear-Admiral Fauque de Jonquières, cruiser *Pascal*, gunboat *Decidée*, and two destroyers.

The circulation of silver in Formosa is to be officially prohibited. The silver notes now in circulation will be replaced by gold notes, but silver will still be accepted in payment of taxes for the time being. The intended currency reform at this juncture is generally considered timely. It will not materially affect foreign trade in Formosa.

The war has so affected the business of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha that the company's total receipts for the half year are estimated, a Japan paper says, at about one million yen less than the figures for the preceding half year. The company's reserve funds for the extension of services and the improvement of the fleet will not be increased for the present business term.

"Coloniensis," writing in the *Fortnightly Review*, claiming to record the views of responsible Russian statesmen, states that during the Boer war Russia offered to the Marquis Ito if allowed a free hand in Manchuria and Corea to support Japanese expansion in the Malay archipelago and Oceania, especially against the Commonwealth, whose exclusion of the Japanese was intensely galling to Japan.

The Nanking Viceroy has informed the Shanghai Taotai that he has given no promise to the Consular delegates regarding the immediate appointment of the Chinese representatives required to complete the constitution of the Whangpu River Conservancy Board. On the contrary, he says he has requested the consideration of an alternative proposal—namely, that China shall forthwith undertake the work with her own resources. This proposal, the Viceroy adds, has been embodied in a memorandum which has been handed to the senior Consul.

Chinan, Weihsien and Chontsun are to be opened to foreign trade. H.E. Yuan Shih-kai and the Governor of Shantung jointly memorialised the Throne, pointing out that in consequence of the completion of the Kiaochow Chinan railway, and the approaching construction of the Tientsin-Chinkiang line by England and Germany jointly, the trade at the above-mentioned centres has greatly increased, and it is believed that a still greater increase will result when these places are opened to international commerce. "Let action be taken at once" is the Imperial order.

Owing to the completion of the Chiao-Chan-chinan railway, which is about 800 li in length, the Chief Engineer has made a representation to the Governor of Shantung, asking permission to construct a branch line from Tung-kuan to Hsiao-chiag-ho, about 3 li distant. The Director of the Bureau of Commercial Affairs at Chinan has been instructed to devise means to procure funds for this line, which will be under Chinese control, though the material will be purchased from Germany in accordance with a clause inserted in the agreement between the Chinese Government and the German Railway Company some time ago.

THE WAR.

(Daily Press, 4th June.)

Next to, and usefully supplementing the ability of the Japanese leaders to keep their own counsel, is the skill that they have undoubtedly displayed in rapidly changing their plans to suit the changing necessities of the campaign. There seems to be little doubt that up to the 15th May, when the loss of the *Hatsuse* compelled the Japanese commander to review his position, the main objective of the war had been the possession of Moukden and the basin of the Hun Ho, with the eventual object of isolating Vladivostock. According to this plan it would seem to have been considered unnecessary to make any active attack on Port Arthur, which apparently was to have been left to the eventualities of famine. As the Japanese at the time had complete command of the sea, this plan, although contrary to the fundamental principle of war which forbids the leaving of a powerful post of the enemy in the rear of an advancing army, had much to recommend it. The loss of the *Hatsuse* and *Yoshino* very considerably altered the fighting capabilities of the fleet, and reduced to an impractical number the ships needed for any successful operation in the neighbourhood of Vladivostock. This apparently accounts for the slacking of the Japanese operations in the neighbourhood of the river Liao. Whatever lack of initiative the Russians may possess in the active carrying on of a war in an enemy's country, the conduct of the defence of Sebastopol proves their capacity in the equally important art of rapidly making good a damaged position, and quickly throwing up formidable earthworks. The three eventful days succeeding the 27th September, 1854, were made such good use of by the beleaguered garrison of Sebastopol, that on the 30th the capture by assault of the fortress, a perfectly practicable feat on the first day, had become an absolute impossibility without regular siege operations. On the 17th October these hasty fortifications of the Russians, mainly, it is true, through the genius of TODLEBEN, had been so far perfected that a regular attack assisted by a formidable train of siege artillery proved a fiasco, and for the entire of the succeeding winter was the aspect of affairs completely changed, and the besiegers had themselves to undergo the hardship of a siege. Apparently inspired by a new hope after the events of the 15th May the Russian garrison at Port Arthur had evidently followed, probably instinctively, the same tactics. The result was that when the attacking force reached the intrenchments at Kinchow on the 21st ultimo, they found the enemy had made formidable arrangements for the defence, that all the heights commanding the approaches were occupied in force, and the foot of the hills was still further protected by mines, wire fences, and barbed entanglements. Prior to the attack the Japanese had located some thirty pieces of artillery of from 10 to 20 centimetres calibre, a large number of which were quick-firers, besides a number of smaller capacity, the number of which was unknown. It was evident therefore that a determined defence was intended, and that unless the Japanese were prepared for a formidable loss of life no attack could expect to be successful. It will thus be seen that on both sides the action was intended to be serious, and the Japanese evidently from their preparations fully comprehended this. It is well that this should be understood, as a French contemporary, which has undertaken the thankless office of Russian *claqueur général*,

has described the part taken by the Russians as a simple demonstration! In view of the heavy loss incurred by the winning side it is well to enquire if the result warrants the expenditure of life, which the Japanese allow to have been about 3,500 of all ranks killed and wounded. To answer a question of this sort more must be taken into consideration on both sides. A famous general once remarked on a like occasion "One more such victory, and I am undone." Generals in modern times have been actuated by feelings of humanity to spare the lives of their troops even at the sacrifice of an immediate success, and more than one commander in modern times has been arraigned by military critics for having without just cause sacrificed his troops. On the other hand, there are cases when an apparently uncalled-for sacrifice of life at the outset has in the end proved an economy. There are two causes of loss of life in an army on active service; as a rule disease is the cause of many more fatalities than the hostile acts of the enemy. A Commander is thus generally justified in bringing a war to a speedy issue, even at the immediate sacrifice of life, provided of course that the way is clear before him.

In like manner, to bring about an early or immediate victory military critics will look leniently on a heavy death roll. Another cause always held to exempt the general from blame is where the general tries successfully to produce a condition of disorganisation in the hostile force. Probably it is not necessary to apply any of the above palliating reasons in the case of Kinchow, which will remain on record as one of the bloodiest battles of the half century. The victory was probably bloody because neither of the commanders could help it: it was in fact one of the unfortunate effects of Russia's uncalled-for encroachment in Asia, that she has hitherto been unable to put any check on it. Her armies have acquired so much *vis inertiae* in the mere mechanical process of advance that the first serious check could not fail of being serious. The late action was even more important; Russia and Japan were both on trial. Russia with her but semi-assimilated civilisation had matched herself against Japan, the latest claimant for admission into the select circles of the higher-toned nations; and considerable jealousy had been evinced by some of the others who might have been expected to know better. Russia had the advantage, of course, that her Tsars belonged to one of the high families, and it was vulgar to ask any questions as to the manner in which the establishment was conducted. Japan, on the other hand, not belonging to an old "county family," was all the more anxious to prove her respectability. To give way meant for Russia the loss of that prestige shady though it undoubtedly is, which has taken her two centuries of somewhat questionable effort to arrive at; for Japan it meant her extinction as a nation. It was plainly impossible for either to retire; for good or evil the fight had to be brought to an issue. It is not too much to say that Civilisation itself was concerned in the result. Had Russia won the day, it would not have been Russia's best qualities that would have gained, but those base propensities which have made the Muscovite empire a terror to humanity. What will be the ultimate effect of the fight at Kinchow, whether it imply the early fall of Port Arthur and the removal of one of the most potent causes of disorder in the Far East, or whether Russia be permitted for a little longer to continue in Asia her policy of aggression, the fight at Kinchow cannot

but have the useful result of indicating to Europe how effectual a stand a determined people like the Japanese can make, even when opposed to a huge conglomeration of nations such as is Russia at the present day.

(Daily Press 9th June.)

There seems now no longer any doubt that General KUROPATKIN is marching to the relief of Port Arthur. It would appear that he is confronted with a most difficult, not to say a most perilous task, for "Russia's bulwark in the Far East" seems now to be closely invested by the Japanese, and the Russian garrison driven in upon its works and shut up. This being the case, military experts agree that it will require but a relatively small part of the Second Army to maintain the siege, leaving a good part of this Army for operations elsewhere. It is impossible to judge precisely of the value of the statements emanating from St. Petersburg, but we can hardly credit the suggestion contained in a REUTER'S telegram which we publish to-day that the announcement of a southward movement to relieve Port Arthur is intended to conceal a general retreat northward which a strong rearguard is demonstratively covering. We have to bear in mind the fact that the capture by the Japanese of this Eastern Sevastopol, which appears to be garrisoned according to the generally accepted estimate, by about 25,000 men, including the sailors, would be a tremendous blow to Russian military prestige, and the feeling in St. Petersburg that Port Arthur must be relieved at all costs can be fully understood. The scepticism with which the announcement of a southward movement has been received is no doubt ascribable to the information which has these last two months been emanating from St. Petersburg attributing to General KUROPATKIN a plan of campaign entirely different from that which he has been obliged to accept. In the very latest home papers to hand we note the statement that the Commander-in-Chief had advised his Sovereign in the sense of abandoning the whole of Manchuria and concentrating his entire army of 200,000 men in the Trans-Baikal district. It would appear from these reports that General KUROPATKIN considers that he has much too small an army for the task he is required to perform, and that he recognised when he came to take up the command the impossibility of transporting and feeding a very much larger one. No doubt time has improved the possibilities in this respect, and the number of troops he controls will surely if slowly be considerably increased. The question of the moment is: Will the Japanese force investing Port Arthur quietly remain inactive as though the intention were to bring about the fall of Port Arthur by famine, or will they speedily follow the simple investment, siege, or bombardment, by a determined assault?

Statements of a most contradictory nature have been published as to the supplies at Port Arthur. On the one hand we are told that there are scarcely three months' provisions and not more than six weeks' coal supplies, while on the other we get the assurance that Port Arthur is sufficiently provisioned to enable the garrison to hold out for twelve months. If there is such a large stock of provisions in the town the authorities seem to have well concealed the fact from the knowledge of the residents who fled before the investment began. It will be remembered that after the first bombardment, reports came from Port Arthur that prices of the ordinary necessities of life advanced enormously, but between that

date and the investment there was ample time to provision Port Arthur for a prolonged siege, and also to complete or strengthen the land forts, many of which at the outbreak of the war were said to be unfinished and unarmed. It seems to be generally expected in the North that the Japanese will attempt the capture of the fortress by assault, and among the Chinese at Chefoo the fall of Port Arthur is regarded as a question of a few days. The weakness of Port Arthur is declared to be that its land defences are scattered. It is suggested that the Japanese could silence some one of the outer forts by concentrating a crushing fire upon it, and once silenced it could be stormed and used to mount guns for the reduction of its nearest neighbours, thus opening a way through the ring of forts. After what we have learnt of the bravery and tenacity of the Japanese troops at Chuliencheng, at Kinchow and Nanshan, an attempt to capture Port Arthur by assault is, we should say, extremely likely.

(Daily Press, 11th June.)

Although there is no definite course of action marked out for a defeated commander when giving up to the enemy his post, it is generally considered good form that the works should be handed over in as good condition as the actual requirements of the war being carried on will permit. The common sense of modern nations deprecates wanton destruction, and a large portion of the modern practice of international law is occupied with the duty of the belligerent in preserving as far as possible intact all private property. With that cynical disregard of the conventions which has marked the conduct of the Government of Russia, both at home and abroad, especially since the accession of the present Tsar, all those conventional safeguards for life, liberty, or property, which men of the nineteenth century fondly imagined had been placed on firm foundations, have been cast to the winds; and international amenities have receded to the low position occupied during the sixteenth century. Slaughter of Jews, persecution of Finlanders in spite and contumacy of solemn engagements sworn to by the Tsar on his accession, unprovoked occupation of territory belonging to friendly States without even a pretence of justification or the miserable makeshift of a formal deed of surrender; and finally a policy towards outside States which in private life would lead to the committal of the perpetrator to gaol for the remainder of his life. These combined with brag and ignorance, usually associated with the lowest of gambling saloons, are the main features of the international amenities of the early twentieth century. It is not, however, so much to moralise on this fact, which after all is probably but the natural sequence of those wire-drawn ideas of universal peace and untrammelled trade which mocked poor humanity during the middle of the last hundred years, as to point out the foolishness, even from a Russian point of view, of the present craze for destruction which is marking the retirement of the Russian forces in Shengking, that we write these lines.

It is no discredit to the moral worth of the Russian commanders in Shengking that in the course of a serious war they have been defeated; both belligerents cannot be on the winning side, and the defeated in all periods of the world's history when brave men have fought and lost have felt consolation in a cheerful acceptance of the decrees of an adverse fate. The fight at Kinchow exhibited some of the best traits of the

Russian army,—its capacity of rapidly constructing works of defence, when another army would yield to the apparently inevitable and retire. The Russian commanders had mistaken the character of the troops with whom they had to fight. The mistake was natural enough; a nation whose system of drill is aimed at repressing all individuality in its ranks is apt to fare but ill in a contest where success mainly depends on the individual soldier. Such was the case in the attack on the heights over Kinchow; here there was no room for manœuvring in the ordinary way, and the soldier, taught to fight in large masses, had manifestly no chance against an enemy each individual of whom was trained to act independently as a separate unit. Under such circumstances, and immediately following a defeat, the Russian commanders wisely declined to attempt a stand at Dalny. No prudent general would have done otherwise. Having made up their minds to evacuate, the Russian commanders would have displayed more wisdom, as well as a better appreciation of military honour, had they yielded the place intact. The absolutely wanton destruction of buildings and jetties, and the malicious damage to the bridges and rolling stock of the branch line from the main track to Dalny, which formed no part of the defence, and would have done no service to the besiegers, cannot be construed as the act of a Power with any pretensions to be considered civilised. With an affectation that they were engaged in warfare with an uncivilised Power, the Russian commanders have all through the present campaign pretended to believe themselves exempt from the ordinary rules of civilised war; and have carried it on with a temper very ill becoming the position which they have been weakly allowed to assume by the other European Powers. On the other hand, it is interesting to note the contrary method of conducting the war adopted by their antagonists. Here every care has been taken to do as little damage as possible to private property, the Geneva cross has been scrupulously respected, even in the case where the Russian Commander-in-Chief was mean enough to make use of it to cover his own flight from Port Arthur; Russian prisoners again have had the same care taken of them as Japanese soldiers themselves, while Japanese ladies of rank have not thought it beneath them to themselves attend on Russian wounded. Looking at the affair in its most sordid, light the action of the Russian commanders has from a merely financial point of view been unwise in a marked degree. Had the Russian troops respected this property, unserviceable as it would have been to a belligerent, they would from this point of view have established a claim for consideration when expenses came to be adjusted. Whatever happens in the future it is in the last degree unlikely that Russia will ever be restored to the possession of Port Arthur; a wise belligerent would have taken some pains, if not to preserve his good name, at least to have some tangible counterclaim to present against his expulsion. It is well that these facts should in the interest of civilisation receive more attention from the other Powers, whose own honour is intimately concerned, than they have hitherto bestowed upon it.

An interesting ceremony took place last week at the offices of the Shanghai Horse Bazaar Co., Ltd., the occasion being the presentation by a few old Shanghai friends of a handsome silver salver to Mr. Henry Symons, on the eve of his departure for home, as a token of their esteem and respect for him.

KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY.

(Daily Press 6th June.)

In the course of his remarks at the opening ceremony of the Fatshan-Samshui Railway, on the 1st instant, Mr. McWade, Consul-General for the United States at Canton, made some remarks which convey the impression that he thinks the colonists of Hongkong are indifferent on the question of the construction of the Kowloon-Canton Railway. He is reported to have said:—"The people of Hongkong, however, did not seem to have arrived at the conclusion that a railway would be a benefit to every merchant in Hongkong. He was sure they [the Americans] were quite ready to take the responsibility of building the railway from Kowloon to Canton. If the building of the railroad from Macao to Canton was turned over to the Americans they would build it, and build it free of expense to the people who gave them the 'contract.' This, of course, is very nice and kind, and we doubt not will be duly appreciated by the promoters of the railway in question, who might perhaps do worse than accept the offer. But the people of Hongkong do not want anyone to make their railway from Kowloon to Canton; they only desire the opportunity to make it themselves or to get it made with British capital and British material. Moreover, the colonists are keenly alive to the advantages it would confer not only on the merchants of Hongkong but on the entire population of the Colony, and also that of the district of Kwangtung, through which the line would pass. It is from no lack of local appreciation of the benefits of railway communication that the construction of the projected railway has been so long delayed; this is simply and solely due to the concessionaries in London, who have failed to utilise their concession. The people of this Colony have been waiting with a patience that would have been admirable in some circumstances, but was perhaps ill-judged in this instance, to see work commenced on the railway. There are some excuses for this apparent apathy. The concession to make the railway had been obtained by a powerful and representative syndicate, and we may safely assert that it was never for one moment imagined by this community that at the end of five long years not a single sod would have been turned. This fact and the still more disheartening one that the detailed survey has not been effected or the very first initial step towards active work taken, could not have been dreamed of by even the most pessimistic observer or the most captious of critics. Other stirring events were taking place meanwhile; war was long impending between Russia and Japan, and the public attention diverted for a time from this most urgent question of the railway. When, however, on the occasion of his departure for Ceylon, Sir HENRY BLAKE alluded in his farewell speech to this question so impressively, the Colony woke up to the position, and it certainly has not slumbered since. It is true that no mass meetings have been convened, no torchlight demonstrations made, as would have been the case in a purely British city menaced with disaster by the lethargy of a ponderous corporation, but strong and urgent representations have been made on the subject by the representative bodies in the Colony, and these have been aided by a strongly sympathetic Government, while the Press of this Colony have earnestly seconded these efforts. It is difficult to see what more can be done for the moment. Speaking for ourselves, we may say that we shall

lose no opportunity of keeping this great and vital question in the forefront of local politics. We shall not cease to press for the immediate prosecution of the work by the British and Chinese Corporation, and if they delay commencement of it much longer, we shall advocate the cancellation of their concession. What the terms of the concession may be we know not, but we imagine that there must be some time limit in it. Assuming that to be the case, it is not too much for the Hongkong Government to ask that that limit should be enforced, and to apply for the transfer of the concession either to itself or to some company formed for the purpose of carrying this important work into effect. If the local Government is at liberty to give support and assistance to a company, we believe it would not be difficult to raise the necessary capital here and in Canton for the purpose. In any case, we cannot afford to wait any longer. Five and a half precious years have already been wasted, and the Colony's stock of patience is thoroughly exhausted. Popular indignation at the manner in which the Colony's best interests are being played with and its future imperilled merely to suit the convenience of a London syndicate is rising higher with every added month of inaction that goes by. The limit of endurance has been nearly reached, and though slow to move Hongkong will yet prove, we trust, that it can on occasion act to some purpose.

MALARIA AND PLAGUE IN HONGKONG.

(Daily Press, 7th June.)

The annual reports of the medical officials in charge of the hospitals of the Colony, published in the current number of the *Government Gazette*, contain much information of a welcome nature. We note especially the indications that the Government anti-malarial measures have been beneficial to the public health, and we are pleased to note, too, a gratifying success achieved in the treatment of cases of plague. These are the two most conspicuously satisfactory features of the reports. Dr. ATKINSON, the Principal Civil Medical Officer, in his report to the Government on the working of the Medical Department during the year 1903, embodies a return of the cases of malarial fevers admitted during the year into the military hospitals, kindly supplied by Colonel WEBB. This return shows a decrease of 568 in the number of European cases, and of 220 in the Asiatic cases. There can be no doubt that this marked diminution is due, as the Principal Civil Medical Officer says, to the extensive training of nullahs and other anti-malarial measures which have been carried on in the neighbourhood of the Barracks by the Military Authorities. At the Government Civil Hospital, too, the diminution in the number of admissions from malarial fevers was maintained, the number for last year being 346 as compared with 349 in 1902, and 787 in 1901. These figures show that the anopholes mosquito does not breed so plentifully in the island as he did a few years ago. Since 1901 the Government has accomplished much in the way of training nullahs and so ridding the colony of the mosquito-breeding pools which were so abundant before Major Ross proved to the medical world their relation to the prevalence of malarial fevers. The returns must encourage the Government to continue their anti-malarial measures. There is much yet to be done in that respect both in the Western and Eastern districts. We may note in this

connection an interesting suggestion made by Dr. BELL in his report as superintendent of the Government Civil Hospital. In writing of dysentery, he remarks that it is now practically considered as a symptom of a disease due to many causes, but not much has been done towards elucidating the special factor in each case. Malaria *per se* is not generally considered to produce this disease, but Dr. BELL is inclined to think it does, and with the increase of microscopical work now done at the hospital, he hopes to be able to add a few facts to those already accumulated regarding this serious ailment.

With regard to the treatment of plague it appears from the report of Dr. THOMSON that the use of carbolic acid proved of considerable value, but perhaps, of greater value still is an improved means of diagnosis, the credit for which belongs to Dr. BELL. By this method the doctors have been able to diagnose a much larger number of very mild cases, and many which would not have been diagnosed as plague in former years were proved to be plague and sent to Kennedy Town. These cases swelled the proportion of cases recovering. The use of carbolic acid was commenced late in the epidemic, and a couple of tables show the mortality before and during the use of carbolic acid. In the first half of the epidemic, i.e. before carbolic acid was used, the mortality rate was 85.6 per cent; in the latter half, under the use of carbolic acid, the rate of mortality was only 36.4 per cent. Perhaps it would be too much to draw from these results the definite conclusion that the improvement is entirely due to the use of carbolic acid, for, as Dr. THOMSON remarks, its use was commenced at a stage in the epidemic when there is a greater natural tendency to recovery, the disease being invariably more virulent early in the season. But when all allowances are made, Dr. THOMSON admits carbolic acid to be of undoubted value in the treatment of plague when given in such doses as to allow its sufficient concentration in the blood to exert its antiseptic action on the bacilli. The doses a plague patient is able to take are enormous. The treatment begins with an initial dosage of 144 grains in 24 hours—12 grains every two hours. It is mentioned that one European patient consumed over 2,500 grains of pure carbolic acid before his blood was free from plague bacilli! It is an astonishing fact that in spite of these enormous doses carbolic acid poisoning is practically unknown, and Dr. THOMSON, who tried carbolic acid in smaller quantities in 1901 with no very marked result, is now of opinion that carbolic acid in large doses is the most hopeful means of treating plague thus far at the disposal of the medical fraternity in Hongkong. It is not, of course, a specific remedy, and, while reporting favourably on its use, the Doctor urges upon the attention of His Excellency the Governor the desirability of carrying into effect before next epidemic season proposals already sanctioned for the production of a curative serum for the treatment of plague. Altogether the medical reports contain abundant evidence of excellent work on which the Medical Department is sincerely to be congratulated.

There is a somewhat unique little Chinese craft, a recent visitor to Hongkong, named the *An Hsi*. The little vessel is a stern-wheel gunboat, drawing only a little over a foot when running trim; she appears so light, indeed, that one could almost imagine she was built to run where enough dew falls. At present she is on the West River giving piratical junks a bad time.

THE JAPANESE PROTECTORATE IN COREA.

(Daily Press, 8th June.)

There is nothing, that we can see, astonishing in the fact that the Press of the world has refrained from declaiming against the Government of Japan for having in the month of February last proclaimed a protectorate over the helpless little empire of Corea. But in an article written from St. Petersburg for the *Times of India* we are told that although this action on the part of Japan has been ignored by the British Press and has practically escaped attention on the Continent, the circumstance is nevertheless imbued with great significance. The writer of the article in question is Mr. ANGUS HAMILTON, who has recently come into prominence as the author of an excellent book on Corea, and the burden of the article is that a protectorate over Corea will operate disastrously against the various vested interests which foreigners hold in that Empire. Certainly it has already operated disastrously for Russian vested interests, but we may be sure that Japan will not go out of her way to interfere with the vested interests acquired by foreigners of other nationalities. Mr. HAMILTON is not so apprehensive about the concessions already established as about "those for which" "at some future date a sphere of activity" "may be sought." He launches out into speculations as to the political protection Japan has guaranteed to Corea being but the forerunner of a commercial protection. But while he admits, as every observer must, that the commercial supremacy which the Japanese have enjoyed in Corea hitherto did not rest on a political foundation, he perceives that between the manufacturer in Japan and his agent in Corea, between the wholesale merchant in Japan and the retail trader in Corea, there is a strong reuniting sentiment against foreign competition. There is nothing extraordinary in this fact when it is remembered that the retail trader is in the majority of cases Japanese, and Mr. HAMILTON is constrained to admit that the feeling is perhaps a natural one, "while its existence constitutes the most extraordinary form of" "commercial protection by which the trade" "between any two States has ever been" "held together."

What, it will be asked, does the new Agreement between the two countries contain that will materially change the commercial relations of Corea with the outside world? We think Mr. HAMILTON has discovered a mare's nest. By the agreement which Japan made with Corea in February she definitively guaranteed the independence and territorial integrity of Corea; and the commercial treaties which the Foreign Powers have with Corea are not abrogated by this new Agreement with Japan, nor are they likely to be. The fact that Japan "has already betrayed her" "appreciation of the doctrine of protection" "in her relations with Formosa—the only" "Colony of importance which the Empire" "of Japan possesses at the present moment," scarcely affects the question, for Corea is not, nor is she likely to become, a Japanese Colonial possession in the administration of which Japan would have an absolutely free hand. The Commercial Powers may be trusted to see that their interests in Corea are not detrimentally affected by any "advice" Japan may give to the Government of Corea, and so long as the independence and integrity of the peninsular empire are maintained it is hardly necessary to point out that the Government of the country will nominally

at least be Korean, and Japan in face of the Korean treaties with foreign nations would not be in a position to secure for her trade any exclusive privileges. And if we bear in mind the fact that the sympathy of the commercial nations is with Japan in the war mainly because of her championship of the principle of the "Open Door" we may safely conclude that Japan will scrupulously guard against any infringement of that principle in the territories which may come under her temporary rule as a result of the war. We say "temporary" advisedly, for Japan has expressly stated in her diplomatic notes that the war is not being waged for the purpose of conquest and that she has no intention of acquiring territory as a result of the conflict. We have confidence in Japan's solemn declarations in this regard and we do not think that elsewhere than in Russia the bogey which Mr. HAMILTON portrays will for the present frighten anybody. •

SHANGHAI AND THE CHINA ASSOCIATION.

(Daily Press, 10th June.)

The Shanghai branch of the China Association takes itself very seriously, and rightly so. As most men thus regard the affairs in which they interest themselves; and as it has never been demonstrated that the cynics of the study chair, the philosophers of the Superior Pessimism, manage to get any "forrader" than most men, the fact need not be accounted to the Shanghai members for unwisdom. None the less, the suggestion may be made, and that without offence, that perhaps they have been recently regarding their doings, or failures at doing, with an exaggerated respect. At their last meeting, it appears, there was talk of a crisis: wild talk of a crisis in the matter of British interests in China, and less startling references to a supposed crisis in the history of the local organisation. The Committee had threatened to resign, because attempts to amalgamate with the China League had not been welcomed with the fervour expected of the sister society. Through most of the speeches ran a note of complaint, that the Foreign Office at home would not sufficiently hearken to the well-informed counsel of the Association. Their communications were being "pigeon-holed," a method of treatment regarded by some of these earnest local patriots as hardly less than insulting to themselves. They were quite convinced, naturally, that none at home could understand the conditions or the needs so well as they in China. The apparent futility of all their efforts to further British interests, the lack of appreciation on the part of a seemingly unsympathetic Government, had so given them pause that with becoming gravity they were now considering the momentous question: "Shall we give it up, and leave the Empire to its fate?" Fortunately, wiser thoughts emerged and floated finally on what had seemed a sea of despair. A committee was appointed to struggle on doing the best it could. For this sensible decision, the Association deserves congratulation.

Lightly, almost frivolously, as we have just esteemed this crisis of theirs, there is absolutely no hostility of intention. Things accomplished by them may well inspire gratitude; and yet no poignant anguish be experienced because they cannot achieve all they would. No doubt it is disappointing to well-meaning volunteers of assistance and advice, when such assistance is not hailed with enthusiasm, or such advice not promptly and implicitly acted upon; but

that is not sufficient foundation for the tone of hopeless distrust of the Government which characterised some of the speeches given. In that was as much of the element of bathos as there was in the announcement of a member that the EMPRESS DOWAGER of China had ordered the extermination of all the "foreign devils," and that her Viceroy was even now but waiting a favourable opportunity to execute at once her orders and the subjects thereof. To do the majority justice, this argument in favour of the Association's striving to be up and doing something, no matter what, was not received with much *empressement*. The nominal if not the principal object of the Association is the education of public opinion, much as the case is with the Navy League; and it seems a little inconsistent, therefore, to hold (as in this instance) its meetings *in camera*. It is not to be supposed that our Governmental leaders at home would have proved unduly susceptible to the criticisms made upon their methods; still less that they might, as this committee did, have talked, in consequence, of resignation. The fact is that the British Government has a happy knack of continuing the national undertakings even when some of its constituents are prone to despair. If Associations waver and relinquish the plough-handles at times, its Consuls and its Ministers persevere, and it is to be presumed it manages to absorb some little information of what is really going on, even so far away as China. Great Britain may not be so supreme in North China, the sphere of her influence not so great or so sharply defined, as the members of the China Association would like to see it; that misguided aliens should persist in considering Shanghai an international port may be displeasing; still, —the task of ROMULUS and REMUS was not accomplished in a single day. Let our northern neighbours take heart, and be of good courage. We have a sneaking suspicion that the affairs of the Empire, like those of this Association which has them so much at heart, may not be in such desperate straits after all.

After all, it is not so much a matter of indifference as the matter of a definition of "British interests" in China. It has always been patent, *malgré* the saying that trade follows the flag, that statesmen and tradesmen define British interests from differing points of view. Just now British patriots in India are vehemently upbraiding the Home Government for a certain "tuppence on tea." Both ends of the wire are intent on British interests, but from what various view-points! Similar divergences of opinion are possible as between the Foreign Office and the China Association.

THE Y.M.C.A. IN HONGKONG.

(Daily Press, 13th June.)

Unquestionably "a long-felt want" in the Colony has been supplied through the agency of the Young Men's Christian Association whose new home in Alexandra Building was formally opened by H.E. the Officer Administering the Government on Friday evening. The need of an Institute for young men which would be at once a home and an educational centre has long been patent, and the wonder is that an attempt was not made to meet it by an institution like the Victoria Recreation Club. Perhaps, however, when all is considered, the experiment is safer in the hands of an organised body like the Y.M.C.A. which maintains paid officials on the spot, who have the time and presumably experience

necessary to run an institute of this character. We will not quarrel with its basis, though its religious foundation may prove to stand to some extent in the way of its success, which must depend very largely indeed on the elasticity of the rules which will govern the institution as well as upon the tact and breadth of view of its most active directors. The Hon. GERSHOM STEWART offered very sound advice when he urged the inadvisability of insisting on attendance at religious services or in any other way trying to force religion down the throats of members. The fact must not be lost sight of that the average young man is not a Christian of the kind usually associated in people's minds with membership of the Y.M.C.A. He, in fact, has no admiration for the methods of the revivalist preacher, and is as a rule a very rationally-minded young man. We have no wish to enter into a discussion on the brands of religious faith, but we heartily desire to see an institution for young men firmly established in Hongkong, and sincerely trust that the spirit in which its movements are directed will not be of that narrow and exclusive religious order which would assuredly fail to accomplish the good it lies in the power of such an institution to achieve here.

It is perhaps a pity that when the name of the institute was under discussion it was not resolved to designate it the Victoria Institute for Young Men or some other name which would be more attractive to young fellows generally. Had the institute a purely secular basis we believe it would have been inaugurated with a membership twice as large as the Y.M.C.A. is starting with. Indeed, a membership of between 400 and 500 is not too much to expect for a Young Men's Institute in Hongkong if it is wisely directed. We welcome, therefore, the assurance of His Excellency Mr. MAY, who appears to have taken a very active and praiseworthy part in the movement, that the doors will not be closed against any man who has respect for "Christian morality," whether he be a professing Christian or not. We have in the speech of the organising secretary too a recognition of the fact that some Associations of the kind have failed because they have neglected to consider "the whole man," and we have the promise also that this Association will be run just on the lines for which Mr. STEWART pleaded. Attendance at the religious meetings and Bible classes will be purely voluntary and "no man need fear that he is going to have religion pushed down his throat." The social, physical and intellectual programmes mapped out by Mr. SOUTHAM will appeal to all young men, and we sincerely trust that whatever prejudices may have been unwisely formed by possible members will speedily be dissipated by experience of the working of the institution. We feel sure it will not lack that public approval and support it is the announced intention of the management to merit, and, recognising as we do the great usefulness of such an organisation, we trust it has a long and prosperous future before it in the Colony.

A telegram has been received in the Colony to the effect that the s.s. *Hoihao* is a total wreck. It is assumed that the wind shifted and at high tide the vessel floated off her bed of hard sand and went on the rocks. The vessel, it will be remembered, went badly ashore on the bank at Hainan Head about a fortnight ago. The *Hoihao* is an old steamer of 500 tons, plying on the Haiphong-Pakhoi-Hoihao-Hongkong run. She was built by Messrs. Hall, Russell & Co., of Aberdeen, in 1880, being now registered under the name of Marty & D'Abada.

HONGKONG JOTTINGS.

(Daily Press, 6th June.)

The question of the water supply is becoming painfully pressing in Hongkong again this year. Already we are long past the time when we should have got through a good long refreshing spell of the rainy season. Instead of that, we are just now having weather which we generally expect to get after the rains are well over, whereas we have had practically no rainfall at all yet and the possibility of a water famine seems far from remote. Already the Chinese are buying water on the Praya from boats which bring it over from the streams in the neighbourhood of Laichikok and Chinwan. The Water Return of the Colony for the 1st of June shows that there were only 71,500,000 gallons of water in the storage reservoirs as compared with 264,360,000 gallons on the same date last year.

I am glad to note that Dr. Atkinson, the Principal Civil Medical Officer, in his annual report, presses upon the attention of the Government the need of a new Government Civil Hospital. He reminds the Government that as Superintendent of the Hospital he referred to the question in his reports for the years 1892 and 1893 and later, and he now again suggests that a site should be reserved for a new hospital. To arrange the present hospital in accordance with the best modern practice a good many improvements are necessary; but among the most pressing requirements are increased accommodation for private patients and the addition of an operating theatre. The present buildings are old and cost a considerable sum of money every year in repairs; and another argument which may be cited in favour of their condemnation is that the growing insalubrity of the surroundings renders the site a very undesirable one for a hospital. But the Principal Civil Medical Officer has lived long in the Colony and has learnt to be modest in his requests. He knows the history of other public buildings now in course of erection, and, guided by that, he merely asks for the reservation of a site. The "entirely new hospital," badly as it may be needed, is according to all precedent, not likely to be gazed upon by the present generation. But could not the Government create a new precedent if it tried?

We have had during the week an interesting instance of the force of Precedent, in the able and exhaustive judgment rendered by the Chief Justice on the question which has arisen about the will of the late Mr. Granville Sharp in relation to the endowment of the hospital which the deceased directed to be built in memory of his wife. The estate left by Mr. Sharp has doubled in value since the will was proved, the result being that the "residue," which was bequeathed for the erection and maintenance of a hospital, has increased by something like a million dollars. The Chief Justice held that the whole of this sum must be devoted to the purposes of the hospital, and Sir William Goodman's ruling on the point seems absolutely sound, according to legal precedent. To the ordinary layman, however, the most satisfactory solution of a question of this sort would appear to be that the total amount of the increment in the value of the estate should be divided *pro rata* among all the beneficiaries under the will, including the hospital; that is if it can safely be assumed that the amounts of the not very munificent legacies left to relatives and friends were determined by a consideration of the sum which would thereafter be left for the erection and maintenance of the hospital, which was evidently his uppermost consideration. What an extraordinary hospital this will be! A hospital which will never need to appeal to the charitable public for funds must surely be unique. The chief difficulty of the treasurer will be to know what to do with the money, for there is no telling to what extent the estate will increase in value as the Colony continues to develop.

I hear that in about three weeks' time certain sections of the new Electric Tramways will be in running order, and that a general opening may be looked for by the 1st of August. It appears that it is a stipulation in the agreement between the Tramway Company and the

Government that upon the opening of the system 500 rickshas will be withdrawn from the streets, leaving about 1,000 plying for hire. This impending reduction is already being counted on by the ricksha-pullers, many of whom are endeavouring to sell off their vehicles or obtain employment as private-ricksha coolies. Now is the time for anyone wanting a ricksha to obtain one cheap.

A visit to the new dock at Quarry Bay shows that Messrs. Butterfield & Swire are making great progress in its construction. It is estimated, roughly, that the whole equipment of the dockyard will be completed in about three years. In the dry-dock itself there is enough solid granite yet to require blasting operations of a year's duration, but the walls of the basin have been more than half built, and work on the cofferdam is being pushed on rapidly. The dock when completed will accommodate the largest ship in the world.

In a Northern port paper a writer discusses the relative physical capabilities of the different men-of-war's men who periodically visit the towns on the China coast. A more interesting thing to discuss would be, perhaps, the personal demeanour of the Navy men of various nationalities. From my own observation in Hongkong, I should say that the French are the best-behaved, the British the best-tempered, the Germans the most exclusive and non-obtrusive, and the Russians the most boorish, while the Americans are the most jovial and good-naturedly uproarious.

I am credibly informed that Hongkong will shortly possess an attraction in the shape of the ever-popular water-chute. The proposed location is to be in the near vicinity of the Hotel Metropole. The promoters of this idea hope to have the chute in full swing ere the hot weather has left us. I am not yet in a position to disclose the names of the promoters, but further details will appear in due course.

At the present time a deal of interest is being taken in the V.R.C.'s scheme for establishing a swimming bath on this side of the harbour. A correspondent writes suggesting that a scheme of this kind ought to be undertaken by the "powers that be" of the Colony. "One serious objection I have to offer to such an institution being in the hands of a private body," he writes, "is that access to the bath would be prohibited to the general public except they pay an entrance-fee of \$30 and become members of the club. It is high time that Hongkong possessed a public swimming bath, open to all on payment of a reasonable fee. The project should prove remunerative financially, and would undoubtedly be a real boon." This is an idea that may be worth discussing, but personally I do not agree that it is a duty of the Government to provide a swimming bath.

BANYAN.

Messrs. Baudin & Co., of Newchwang, in a market report dated May 25th which came to hand yesterday state:—Pilotage is made compulsory and is increased to six taels per foot, and all night work is prohibited. On the other hand the Russians have permitted the use, while vessels are entering or leaving the river, of two removeable marks to lessen the difficulties of navigation. Great quantities of beans have come down river during the last six weeks, but unsold stocks are now reduced to about 13,000 piculs in harbour, and 30,000 piculs *en route*. Prices are high. The next big fleet of beanboats may be expected to arrive about 20th June, until which date there is unlikely to be any fall in prices. About a month ago high rates would have been gladly paid for southern ports, but tonnage was unobtainable—now freights have declined in sympathy with southern markets. The Norwegian str. *Standard* was settled at 50 cents to Shanghai on 26,000 piculs, and the British str. *Dovedale* at 60 cents to Swatow on 40,000 piculs. Arrivals to date are 52, against 256 in 1903. Vessels in Port.—*Pechili, Wosang, Waishing, Kashing, Kalgan, Dovedale, Bourbon, Pronto*. Vessels Expected.—*Carl Menzell, Newchwang, Victoria, Chefoo, Kampot*.

WAR TELEGRAMS.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS]

LONDON, 2nd June.

The Tsar's Council of War favours Viceroy Alexieff's advice that an effort be made to relieve Port Arthur.

General Kuropatkin wants his force to be increased to 400,000 men.

The Russians have completed eleven fortresses and are laying mines at Liaoyang.

General Stalkenberg with a force of 14,000 men is marching in the direction of Wafangtien.

Large forces of Hunhuses are preparing to cut the railway north of Mukden.

LONDON, June 3.

Recent events in the arena of the war have created a very pessimistic feeling in Russia. Upwards of 1,360 arrests have been made in Russia for political offences.

LONDON, June 7.

General Kuropatkin, Commander-in-Chief of the Russian army, has been instructed to proceed South quickly.

General Kuropatkin and his staff are reported to be between Haiching and Tachicho.

Admiral Dubasoff says that a determined sortie by the fleet at Port Arthur is probable.

LONDON, 8th June.

General Kuropatkin, apparently, has returned to Liaoyang.

THE SULTAN AND RUSSIA'S BLACK SEA FLEET.

LONDON, 10th June.

It is firmly reported that the Sultan has given his consent to the passage of Russia's Black Sea fleet through the Dardanelles.

ANOTHER JAPANESE SUCCESS.

KOBE, 10th June.

The Japanese have occupied Simang?

The Russians fled, burning the Chinese houses as the Japanese approached.

LONDON, 10th June.

The Japanese have reoccupied Saimatze.

[JAPANESE OFFICIAL DESPATCHES.]

JAPANESE CASUALTIES AT NANSHAN.

Tokyo, June 4th, 9.25 a.m.

Our total casualties in the battle of Kinchow and Nanshan on the 26th of May, were 4,204; whereof 749 were killed, including 33 officers; and 3,455 wounded, including

100 officers. There were no casualties among Generals.

Tokyo, 5th June, 12.30 p.m.

Admiral Togo reports that, according to a wireless telegram from the captain of the *Chitose* cruising off Port Arthur, four masts with wireless telegraphic instruments on one of them and a sentry-box were seen on the top of Laotishan. Great explosions were heard and dense smoke was observed rising repeatedly in the direction of Port Arthur during Saturday last.

RUSSIAN GUNBOAT BLOWN UP.

Tokyo, 6th June, 12.35 p.m.

Admiral Togo reports that the Fifth destroyer flotilla, while engaged in blockading Port Arthur at 7.40 p.m. on the 4th instant, witnessed a gunboat of the *Gilyak* type belonging to the enemy blow up and sink at the front of Chengtaushan, probably by striking one of our mines. Another Russian gunboat, some destroyers and steam-launches which appeared to be engaged in clearing mines outside Port Arthur hastily fled inside.

EXPLODING RUSSIAN MINES.

Tokyo, June 7th, 1.30 p.m.

Admiral Togo reports that the clearing operations at Talienshan are satisfactorily progressing despite the rough sea, and 41 mines were discovered and exploded between the 3rd and 6th inst. A Chinese who formerly served the enemy as a pilot is now usefully employed by us. We discovered one safe channel for the navigation of shallow-draught ships.

JAPANESE OCCUPY SAIMACHIH AND SIUYEN.

Tokyo, 10th June, 7.40 p.m.

General Kuroki reports that a detachment occupied Saimachih on the 7th inst.

Our casualties were three men killed and 24 men wounded.

The enemy left 23 killed on the field, besides two officers and five men who were taken prisoners.

General Kuroki's army, co-operating with the forces that landed at Takushan, occupied Siuyen on the 8th inst., driving the enemy towards Tomucheng and Kaiping.

The enemy consisted of 4,000 cavalry with 6 guns.

Our casualties were three men killed, and one lieutenant, one sub-lieutenant and 28 men slightly wounded.

THE RUSSIAN DEAD AT NANSHAN.

Tokyo, 12th June, 12.25 p.m.

General Oku reports that Russian corpses have been found in the vicinity of Nanshan and carefully buried by the Japanese Military Administration Commission and gendarmes.

The number was 10 officers, and 664 men, besides about 30 buried by Japanese troops in the neighbourhood of the camps.

[REUTER'S SERVICE.]

GENERAL STOESSEL'S REPORT ON THE BATTLE OF NANSHAN.

LONDON, 4th June.

General Stoessel's report of the battle of Nanshan, hastily pencilled, was sent by junk to Yingkow and from there telegraphed. It says that the Japanese fire, especially from the gunboats and destroyers, annihilated the batteries at Kinchau. Before evacuating Nanshan he ordered the guns to be blown up, but his orders were only partially carried out, owing to the necessity for a prompt retreat.

PORT ARTHUR NEWS.

LONDON, 5th June.

Russian messages per carrier pigeon forwarded to St. Petersburg, declare that the news from Port Arthur is very satisfactory.

General Sakharoff reports that a body of Cossacks on the 31st ultimo encountered the Japanese at Fenchuinling pass and dislodged them from a strong position on the heights.

Thirty Cossacks were killed and wounded.

RUSSIAN SOUTHWARD MOVEMENT.

LONDON, 6th June.

All correspondents to St. Petersburg unite in affirming that General Kuropatkin has ordered a Southward movement to relieve Port Arthur.

Some critics suggest that this unanimity is intentional, and intended to conceal a general retreat Northward, which a strong rearguard is demonstratively covering.

THE MANCHURIAN FRONTIER.

LONDON, 6th June.

The anxiety in St. Petersburg regarding the situation on the Manchurian frontier is increasing.

Owing to the restlessness of the Chinese troops it is feared that General Ma will lose control over the forces under his command.

MOBILISING RUSSIA'S FIRST ARMY CORPS.

LONDON, 7th June.

The Tsar has ordered the mobilisation of the first Army Corps, which includes the St. Petersburg district.

General Kuropatkin reports a five hours' fight on the 3rd instant at Khotsiaputse, 18 miles West of Fengwangcheng. The Japanese attempting to advance from a fortified position were driven back by Cossacks, assisted by field guns. Sixteen Cossacks were wounded.

THE RUSSIAN BALTIC FLEET.

LONDON, 7th June.

Naval experts are convinced that the Baltic fleet, whose date of departure is constantly deferred, will never reach the Pacific; even if it starts.

A CHINESE REPORT.

LONDON, 9th June.

A Belgian Legation telegram from Liaoyang, received in St. Petersburg, says the Chinese report that the Japanese on the 6th instant made several simultaneous land and sea attacks on Port Arthur and were repulsed with severe loss.

THE JAPANESE ATTACK ON SAIMATSE.

LONDON, 9th June.

General Kuropatkin reports that a Japanese brigade attacked Saimatse, North of Fengwangcheng, on the 7th instant. In view of the numbers of the enemy, the Russians retired losing 100 in killed and wounded.

RUSSIANS FALLING BACK.

LONDON, 10th June.

Reuter's correspondent at Mukden confirms that General Kuroki has begun a forward movement in force; and the Russians officially admit that they are falling back before a superior force.

ENGLISH AID TO RUSSIAN HOSPITALS.

LONDON, 10th June.

The English Red Cross Society has sent £2,000 for the Russian sick and wounded.

[RUSSIAN OFFICIAL DESPATCHES.]

THE BATTLE ON THE YALU.

General Kuropatkin sent the following telegram to the Tsar, dated May 3rd:—

According to the report of General Saasulitch, dated May 3rd, on the fight of May 1st at Turen-chen. (Chiuliencheng) the battle was fought in the following circumstances:

The 12th and 22nd Regiments and the 2nd and 3rd Batteries of the 6th Brigade of Artillery were the troops engaged. The battle began with heavy cannonading on our right flank by siege guns at Wiju and field batteries on the islands. After a lull the firing was resumed with extraordinary violence against the left flank of our main position at Turen-chen and our position at Potentytai. A fusillade was also begun by small parties of Japanese across the River Ai-ho.

The situation of the defenders of the positions became more difficult, especially at Potentytai, which was bombarded on the front and both flanks.

Thirty Japanese guns were pitted against our battery at Potentytai, which, after having silenced the enemy's mountain battery, directed its fire on the Japanese infantry and sustained few losses, so long as it was not obliged to take up another position owing to the withdrawal of our infantry from the bank.

The Japanese under our fire made continual attacks with fresh troops, but without having recourse to the bayonet. Japanese bodies lay in heaps at the fords of the river.

Simultaneously with the attack at Potentytai an attack was being made on the left flank at Turen-chen, and the Russian trenches had to be abandoned under the enfilading fire of the Japanese. Our reserves several times mingled with the first line, thus enabling it for a long time to maintain its position. Finally all the supports were brought up into the firing line, but, owing to their great distance from the main reserves, it was impossible for them to reach the advanced force in time. Our men retired from the principal position to another position in the rear of Turen-chen, followed by the concentrated fire of the Japanese, who could not make up their minds to come down from the crest which they occupied, and to face the fire of our batteries and Poulmetts. They dug fresh trenches, and opened a heavy artillery fire on our new positions, and began to turn our left flank towards Echingou.

Two battalions of the 11th Regiment and the 3rd Battery of the 3rd Brigade of Artillery, belonging to the main reserve, were ordered to Lao-fan-hou. They occupied a position with a double firing line, thus permitting our advanced line, which had suffered heavily, and our wounded, to retire.

The battalions of the 11th Regiment, both flanks of which were turned by the enemy, several times advanced with fixed bayonets, and preceded by buglers, to clear a passage. The Japanese, however, declined a hand-to-hand conflict, and recoiled. In front of the regiment was the chaplain bearing a cross. He was struck by two bullets. It was only by advancing on the Japanese with the bayonet that the 11th Regiment was able to extricate itself. On the arrival of a battalion of the 10th Regiment all the troops were able to beat a retreat.

The losses of the 11th and 12th Regiments were very great, and are not yet exactly known. In the 11th Regiment the killed included Colonel Laming and Lieut-Colonels Dometti and Raievsky. The 12th Regiment lost nine company commanders killed or wounded.

The 2nd and 3rd Batteries of the 6th Brigade, having lost the greater number of their men and horses, could not bring away their guns, and abandoned them after rendering them useless. For the same reason the six guns of the 3rd Battery and eight poulmetts could not be brought away, and they were also disabled. The mountainous nature of the country rendered it impossible to save the guns by means of drag ropes.

Up to the present 800 wounded, including fourteen officers, have been brought into the hospital at Fengwangcheng. Their eventual transport elsewhere is fully assured.

The Japanese cavalry appeared to the south-east of Fengwangcheng, but, seeing two companies with two guns opposed to it, did not venture to approach.

The transport of the wounded by hired bearers to Fengwangcheng was very difficult. Two-wheeled carts, and horses lent by the cavalry, were also utilised for bringing in the wounded. Most of these, however, arrived on foot, assisted by their comrades, and reached Fengwangcheng within twenty-four hours.

General Sassulitch declares that the troops retained their morale, notwithstanding their heavy losses, and are ready for fresh engagements.

The Japanese losses were very heavy at the passage of the Aiho, at their position at Turenchen, and on the hill occupied by the two battalions of the 11th Regiment. According to the statements of men who took part in the battle, at least three to four thousand were killed.

GENERAL KASHTALINSKY'S REPORT.

General Kashtalinsky reported:—

I consider it my duty to report the painful but glorious circumstances of the fight sustained by the troops under my orders against superior Japanese forces on May 1st at Turenchen (Chin-lien-cheng).

On the morning of April 30th the Japanese had already turned my left flank, which had the evening before occupied the heights of Khosan after a fight. It was on this account that I ordered the battalions of the 22nd Regiment which had occupied Khosan, to retire across the Iho on the position of Potietintzy.

On the morning of the same day an extraordinarily violent and prolonged bombardment of the whole position of Turenchen was begun from Wiju. It was anticipated that the Japanese, after the bombardment, in which more than 2,000 shells were fired, would take the offensive.

On the night of May 1st I received from General Sassulitch orders to accept battle by remaining on my former position. On the left flank of my position the fords of Potietintzy were defended by two battalions of the 22nd Regiment and the 3rd battery of the Sixth Brigade.

The Japanese took the offensive at five o'clock in the morning, sending towards the fords of the Iho River at least one division of infantry, which, advancing in column, sustained enormous losses, but crossed the fords and attacked. The position was cannonaded in flank by thirty-six field guns and by siege batteries.

The 12th Regiment, covered by the fire of the brigade, and by a company of machine guns, which, by a terrible fire, arrested the advance of the Japanese, advanced and occupied the position.

Towards noon I ascertained that the Japanese had routed a battalion of the 22nd Regiment, posted at Chin-gau, and were turning my left flank. At one o'clock in the afternoon my left flank was reinforced by two battalions of the 11th Regiment and a battery commanded by Lieut.-Colonel Mouravsky, who were sent from the reserve by General Sassulitch, with orders to hold their ground until the departure of the 9th and 10th Regiments from Shakedza.

I ordered the 11th Regiment to occupy a commanding position in the rear from which they could fire on the enemy from two sides.

I held Lieut.-Colonel Mouravsky's battery in reserve, and ordered the 12th Regiment, the 3rd Battery, and the quickfiring guns to retire under cover of the 11th Regiment. My Chief of Staff led the rearguard to its position.

At one o'clock the Japanese approached so close to the position held by the 11th Regiment that the 3rd Battery could not pass along under cross fire, and, taking up a short distance from the Japanese, remained there until the end of the fight, losing its commander, Lieut.-Colonel Mouravsky.

A company with quickfiring guns was brought up from the rearguard. The officer commanding this force, seeing the difficult situation of Colonel Mouravsky's battery, took up a position on his own initiative. He lost half his men and all his horses, and attempted to bring away his guns by hand and take them under shelter of the hills under a cross fire. The quickfiring guns discharged about 35,000 bullets. The 12th Regiment cut its way through and saved its colours. The 2nd

Battery of the Sixth Brigade, having attempted to rejoin the reserve by another route, could not ascend the mountain slopes with only half its horses, and returning to its original position, received the Japanese attack.

The 11th Regiment, which held its ground for two hours more with heavy losses, forced a passage at the point of the bayonet and crossed the ravines with its colours.

It lost its colonel commandant, forty officers, and about 2,000 non-commissioned officers and men.

The Japanese losses must have been enormous.

The Russians retired in good order on Fengwangcheng. The men of the 3rd Division maintained their excellent 'morale,' and more than 700 wounded proceeded with their regiments to Fengwangcheng.

A GENERAL ORDER TO THE PORT ARTHUR GARRISON.

After the battle of the Yalu, General Stössel, commanding the garrison at Port Arthur, issued the following order of the day:—"On April 30 and May 1 the enemy crossed the Yalu in great force, and our troops fell back on positions which had been previously selected. Yesterday the enemy effected an important landing on the Liaotung Peninsula, south of Pitszewo and in the vicinity of Kinchau Bay. Now our work is beginning. Naturally the enemy will destroy railway communication, and endeavour to drive our troops back to Port Arthur and besiege this fortress, Russia's bulwark in the Far East. Defend it until the arrival of the troops which are coming to relieve us. I consider it my duty to call upon you to display unceasing vigilance and caution, and you must be ready at all times to demean yourselves towards your general with the dignity and order befitting the glorious troops of Russia. No matter what happens, you must not lose your heads, but remember that everything is possible in war, and that we shall be able, with the help of God, to cope with the arduous task imposed upon us."

JAPAN'S WAR EXPENSES.

A Tokyo despatch gives the following as the statement of the finance authorities:—The estimated war disbursements from the commencement up to the end of the present fiscal year amount to 410,000,000 yen, which sum is to be raised by temporary loans or the issue of bonds. Of this sum, 200,000,000 yen has already been raised by the first issue of the Domestic Bonds and the loans contracted in England and America. Of the remaining 210,000,000 yen, 100,000,000 yen will be derived from the second issue of Domestic Bonds just announced. The term of redemption of these bonds has been prolonged by two years beyond that of the first issue, making seven years. As already stated, the price of the new issue has been fixed at 92 yen, three yen below the figure for the first issue, a concession stated to be made in consideration of the prolongation of the term of redemption and also of the economic conditions now prevailing. It is added that the field of campaign as the result of the successive victories of Japan has now greatly extended, large forces of troops being sent out in quick succession, with a consequent rapid increase in the disbursement. It is not expected, however, that the money market will be much affected by the issue of the new loan, as ample time is given for the payment of the calls, but it is natural that the market should be affected in some degree as the war expenditure increases. Both opposing armies are now on the field of Manchuria, and it is expected the campaign will reach a climax shortly, but it must be remembered that the end of the war is still far off. The nation is urged to subscribe to the bonds without hesitation and so help to final success in the war. The result of the first issue of domestic bonds was quite successful, more than double the amount being applied for, while almost the whole amount was taken up by those subscribers who applied for 200 yen or less. It is expected, concludes the despatch, that the second issue will be similarly successful.

THE BLUNDER OF THE "KINSHIU MARU."

The following account of the sinking of the Japanese transport *Kinshiu Maru* was sent to Russia from Vladivostok:—Late at night on the 26th April the squadron started on a fresh expedition. In twenty-two hours it had covered

some 300 miles, and at six in the evening it sighted a Japanese trading steamer, which had on board war stores. The crew of fifteen Koreans and twelve Japanese were placed in safety, and the steamer was then sunk by means of a pyroxoline cartridge, which Lieutenant Bolothikoff fired from the *Gromovoi*. That night, towards eleven o'clock, when the squadron was about twelve miles from Plaksin Bay, a large Japanese transport, the *Kinshiu Maru*, of 6,000 tons, was overhauled. Her commander took the Russian squadron for a Japanese squadron, and signalled, "I am bringing you coal." The reply "Stop instantly" was promptly signalled. When the crew of the transport recognised their mistake, they lowered their boats and steam pinnaces in the greatest haste, and endeavoured to escape in them, but the Russian steam cutters captured them all. On the transport were found four Hotchkiss guns of 47 millimetres. At the outset it looked as if no one had been left on board, but when the Russians carried the examination further they found that a cabin was locked and barred. In it were six infantry officers, who surrendered without resistance, and were taken on board the *Rurik*. In another part of the ship were discovered 130 infantry soldiers, who refused to surrender. The Russian Admiral, whose vessel was about eight cables off, sent orders to his men to quit the transport. The Japanese soldiers opened fire, and wounded a sailor who was steering. Soon afterwards the transport was sent to the bottom with a mechanical mine and a few shells. The Japanese on board did not cease firing, and made no attempt to save themselves, although they had a launch at their disposal. In fact, they maintained their fusillade until the waves closed over the ship. The steamer had on board not only ammunition for big guns, but also 2,000 tons of coal for Admiral Kawamura. The prisoners numbered 183 men, including seventeen officers and some persons whose status has not been determined. Altogether the prisoners taken by the squadron were 210, and these were safely landed at Vladivostok on the return of the squadron to that place. They were at once taken on by railway to Nikolsk in the Ussuri territory. Reports are current that at the very time when the Russian cruisers were returning to Vladivostok a Japanese fleet, consisting of ten vessels, was making for that port, but failed to reach it owing to thick fog. A message by wireless telegraphy was picked up by the Russian ships. It was in code and unintelligible, but was evidently being exchanged between the Japanese ships. Among the Japanese prisoners are a colonel and an officer of high rank of the General Staff, and the soldiers include a number of Japanese who before the war worked as artisans at Vladivostok.

RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR FUND.

- (1) Providing additional comforts in hospital treating all sick and wounded from the War.
- (2) In aid of the families of Japanese killed in the War.

Mr. J. R. M. Smith, the Hon. Treasurer, begs to acknowledge with thanks the following subscriptions—for either (or both) of the above objects, as indicated on the subscription lists.

Already acknowledged	£30,271.86
H.E. General V. Hatton, C.E.	100
Carmichael & Clarke	100
H. Jackson	25
L. S. Lewis	10

£30,506.86

The death is announced of Mr. J. N. Tatae who died on the 19th ultimo while on his way to Germany. The *Kobe Chronicle* says Mr. Tata was one of the pioneers of the import of Indian raw cotton to Japan, in connection with which the Japan-Bombay line of the N.Y.K. was started in 1893. A few years ago the decoration of the Fourth Order of Merit was conferred upon Mr. Tata by the Japanese Government, and he received other tokens of recognition of the important part he took in the development of this branch of the nation's commerce and the opening of direct trade. The Spinning Union of Japan has sent a telegram of condolence to Mr. Tata's family. The deceased gentleman was born in 1839, and therefore 65 years of age.

SUPREME COURT.

Monday, 6th June.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR WILLIAM M. GOODMAN (CHIEF JUSTICE) AND CAPTAIN BASIL TAYLOR (MARINE ASSESSOR).

A COLLISION CASE.

The Tak Hing firm sued Lo Cheuk and Chau Shan for \$5,000, being damages sustained by the plaintiffs by reason of the negligent navigation by the defendants' launches *Cheong Lee* and *Kwong Loi* respectively belonging to them, whereby the plaintiff's cargo-boat No. 381 was sunk in Hongkong Harbour on 21st October last. Mr. M. W. Slade, barrister-at-law (instructed by Mr. H. W. Looker, of Messrs. Deacon, Looker and Deacon, solicitors) appeared for the plaintiffs; Hon. H. E. Pollock, K.C., barrister-at-law (instructed by Mr. O. D. Thomson, solicitor), for the *Kwong Loi*; and Mr. E. H. Sharp, K.C., barrister-at-law (instructed by Mr. F. Paget Hett, solicitor, of Mr. G. K. Hall Brutton's office), for the *Cheong Lee*.

The plaintiffs, in their statement of claim stated that on 21st October they engaged the steam launch *Kwong Loi* to tow a cargo-boat laden with flour and general merchandise worth \$10,462 from the Tung Yik pier to the steamship *Hupoh* lying in the harbour. At 6 p.m. on the evening of the 21st October the *Kwong Loi* left the pier carrying the cargo-boat in tow. Shortly after she left the wharf, and before she reached the north fairway, the *Cheong Lee*, coming from Yaumati, collided with the cargo-boat and sunk her. The collision was partly caused by the negligence of those on board the *Kwong Loi* in not keeping out of the way of the *Cheong Lee* and partly by the negligence of those on board the *Cheong Lee* in navigating her at too great a speed, in not changing her course or reversing her engines, or not doing so in sufficient time to avert a collision.

The first defendant, Lo Cheuk, owner of the *Cheong Lee*, stated in defence that the regulation lights were duly exhibited and burning properly and a good look-out was kept on board the launch. The night was dark but clear. Both wind and tide were setting in a westerly direction. When approaching the central fairway she went half-speed. The *Kwong Loi* when about 300 or 400 yards away from the *Cheong Lee* starboarded, the *Kwong Loi's* green light coming into view on the *Cheong Lee's* port bow, and the *Kwong Loi* proceeded on a course about north by east, crossing the course of the *Cheong Lee* from port to starboard. The *Cheong Lee* thereupon blew a long warning blast on her whistle and continued on her course at half-speed. When the vessels approached near together the *Kwong Loi* suddenly starboarded and turned across the bow of the *Cheong Lee*. Those on board the *Cheong Lee* (perceiving that otherwise a collision was inevitable) immediately put her helm hard a-starboard and blew two short blasts on her whistle, and reversed her engines. Nevertheless the starboard quarter of the cargo-boat struck the *Cheong Lee's* starboard bow.

The second defendant, Chau Shan, stated in his defence that neither the *Kwong Loi* nor the cargo-boat gave any signal indicating their change of course to port, and the collision was not caused or contributed to by any improper conduct on the part of those employed by the defendant or by their improper conduct of the plaintiff boat. The *Kwong Loi* neglected to take proper measures to keep out of the way of the *Cheong Lee*, and the *Kwong Loi* improperly turned to port just before the collision. The *Kwong Loi* attempted to cross ahead of the *Cheong Lee*, and the *Kwong Loi* neglected to slacken speed or to stop or to reverse. The *Kwong Loi* was navigated in a reckless and improper manner and in contravention of rules No. 19, 22, 25 and 29 of the Regulations for preventing Collisions at Sea.

Further evidence was taken.

Wednesday, 8th June.

HIS LORDSHIP said that he would not reserve judgment because it seemed to him to be a very clear case. There was no doubt that the collision occurred somewhere between the shore

and the bow—somewhat to the east of the bow—of the *Stanley*. One launch, the *Cheong Lee*, was going from Yaumati to the Pak On pier, and the other launch, the *Kwong Loi*, which had the cargo-boat lashed to it, was going out on a course which was very clearly shown by looking at the relative position of the *Stanley* and the pier. She was going past the bows of the *Stanley*; the tide and wind were coming from the East, and all she wanted to do was to round the *Stanley*. The two boats were going along a course by which one would have to cross the other, and it was quite clear that the *Kwong Loi* had the *Cheong Lee* on her starboard side. That being so it was the duty of the *Kwong Loi*, under article 19, to have kept out of the way of the *Cheong Lee*, if she could do so. Now, it was quite clear that the *Cheong Lee* kept on her course, barring, of course, any little deviation caused by junks, cargo-boats, etc., as it was obvious that in a crowded harbour these would be necessary, until immediately before the collision occurred, when she starboarded her helm to come round to avoid, as far as possible, the full effect of the collision. There was nothing to prevent the *Kwong Loi* from doing her duty, that was to port her helm and go under the stern of the *Cheong Lee*. All she had to do was to have ported her helm, which would not have taken her at all out of her course, but would have taken her under the stern of the *Cheong Lee*, as she should have gone. The coxswain of the *Kwong Loi* said that if the *Cheong Lee* had not caught him they would have crossed over the *Cheong Lee's* bows, as they were trying to do. It was quite clear that he caused the collision. It seemed to him that the whole occurrence was clearly accounted for by the *Kwong Loi* neglecting to port, which she might have done with the greatest of ease, and gone under the stern of the other ship. It was alleged that there was a cargo-boat in the way of the *Kwong Loi*, thus preventing her from porting her helm. On the evidence His Lordship found that that was not so. The cause of the collision was quite clear and plain. The *Kwong Loi*, with the cargo boat lashed to her, was too intent on running ahead of the *Stanley* to bother herself to take proper precautions to avoid the other boat. She caused the collision and she was to blame.

A verdict for the plaintiffs was delivered, with a rider attached to the effect that the *Cheong Lee* was not to blame, but that the *Kwong Loi* was liable for damages to the plaintiffs. The cost of the action to the plaintiffs and to the other side to be borne by the *Kwong Loi*. The question of the amount of damages was referred to the Registrar.

Mr. Sharp asked for leave to apply to the Court for his costs in the event of the other side refusing to pay them, and this was granted.

Thursday, 9th June.

IN BANKRUPTCY.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR WILLIAM M. GOODMAN (CHIEF JUSTICE.)

APPLICATION TO WITHDRAW A PETITION REFUSED.

In the case in which an interim petition for a receiving order had been granted on the application of the Sui Kat Bank on the estate of the Tung Chan firm, Mr. J. Scott Harston, of Messrs. Ewens and Harston, solicitors, applied to have the petition withdrawn and the interim order discharged. Mr. P. W. Goldring, solicitor, of Mr. John Hastings's office, represented the debtors.

Mr. Harston stated that two affidavits had been filed—one by the managing partner of the petitioning firm and the other by the manager of the debtor firm. There would be about 66 per cent. paid on the debts.

His Lordship asked Mr. Harston if he could quote any case in which leave had been given to withdraw a petition after an interim receiving order had been granted.

Mr. Harston replied that he had looked, but was not able to find such a case.

His Lordship said it was very seldom that an application was made, after an interim receiving order had been made, to withdraw the petition. The usual course, if the debtors were prepared

to make a proposal and the creditors to accept it, was to call a meeting of creditors.

The Official Receiver (Mr. Bruce Shepherd) mentioned that Sir Fielding Clarke had on one occasion refused to make an order in a similar case, because he did not know who might be damaged.

His Lordship—What do you say, Mr. Goldring?

Mr. Goldring—I am more or less a passive spectator. I may mention that another of my clients, another partner in the debtor firm, has committed suicide in Canton.

His Lordship—Well, I do not see that that has anything to do with the law, though it may be bad for him.

After some further discussion.

His Lordship said he must decline the application as he could find no authority for granting such an application. The matter must be gone about in the ordinary course, and the debtors' proposal submitted to a meeting of creditors.

COSTS.

In the case of the bankruptcy of the Chi Loong firm, *ex parte* the Goo Tak Sang, Mr. Goldring appeared in support of an application by the petitioning creditors for payment of costs under Section 2 of Ordinance 24 of 1895.

His Lordship granted the application, stating that he had come to the conclusion that the property of the debtors in respect of whose estate the receiving order was made had been preserved for the benefit of the creditors by means of the legal proceedings brought by the applicants. Mr. Bruce Shepherd had very properly cut down some of the costs. He understood the assets were quite substantial and would pay over 50 per cent.

The Official Receiver—Yes, my Lord.

His Lordship granted the application.

F. NOLTE'S BANKRUPTCY.

Frederick Nolte, late of the Hotel America, Wyndham Street, applied for a receiving order and to be declared bankrupt. He was represented by Mr. F. Paget Hett, solicitor, of Mr. G. K. Hall Brutton's office.

His Lordship asked if the debtor was the same man that gave evidence some time ago before him in an embezzlement case?

The Debtor replied that it was he who gave evidence. The defendant on that occasion was Paul Rosche, who was manager of his cigar factory.

His Lordship remarked that they did not appear to be very successful; one man charged with embezzlement and another in bankruptcy.

Mr. Hett stated that the petition was made in consequence of a resolution come to by the creditors, and it was quite probable that an arrangement would be arrived at.

His Lordship asked how the hotel did not pay; it ought to do a roaring good business.

The Debtor deposed that he had lost money in the cigar factory. He had been connected with the Manila and Hongkong Cigar Manufacturing Co., but was separated from it now. He sold the hotel for \$16,000 last month. Out of that sum he had paid \$5,000 on a bill of sale, \$3,000 on a promissory note, and other items.

His Lordship granted an order.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR T. SERCOMBE SMITH (PUISNE JUDGE).

ALLEGED BREACH OF CONTRACT.

Joseph Heures, London, sued Paul Lemaire & Co., Hongkong, for \$333 damages sustained by the plaintiff by reason of a breach by the defendants of a contract made on 25th September, 1903, for the purchase of 1,000 cases of tin plates. Mr. E. J. Grist, of Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist, solicitors, appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. G. K. Hall Brutton, solicitor, for the defendants.

Mr. Grist stated that defendants telegraphed to plaintiff asking for these tin plates, and in reply he telegraphed stating the price. Subsequently defendants telegraphed to cancel all orders. Plaintiff wired back declining to cancel the order, whereupon he replied, "Cancel all orders; are now in liquidation." When the tin plates were re-sold they realised only £600, whereas the price fixed upon between the parties was

£629 3s. 4d. The damages claimed represented the difference between these figures.

Mr. Thomas Morrill, representative of Charles Heureux in Hongkong, gave evidence of having received the order.

Mr. Brutton's defence was that there was no contract, as the telegram asking what the price of the plates was, was not an offer; also that the damages claimed were excessive.

His Lordship reserved judgment.

Friday, 10th June.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR T. SERCOMBE SMITH
(PUISNE JUSTICE).

ALLEGED BREACH OF CONTRACT.

Joseph Heureux, London, sued Paul Lemaire & Co., Hongkong, for \$333 damages sustained by the plaintiff by reason of a breach by the defendants of a contract made on 25th September, 1903, for the purchase of 1,000 cases of tin plates. Mr. E. J. Grist, of Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist, solicitors, appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. G. K. Hall Brutton, solicitor, for the defendants.

His Lordship in delivering judgment said:—This is an action brought by Joseph Heureux of 101, Leadenhall Street, London, F.C., England, merchant, against P. Lemaire and Co. of 15, Queen's Road Central, in this Colony, claiming \$333 as damages for breach of contract for the purchase of 1,000 cases of tin plates at 12/7 a case. At the trial the plaintiff failed to prove that he had sustained the damages claimed or any portion thereof, and asked that the further hearing should be postponed to allow of the issue of a commission to take evidence in England on the point of damages. But at the suggestion of the Court, the case was proceeded with because the defendant might have defences which would absolve him from liability and render the taking of evidence on commission unnecessary. No question is raised by the status of the plaintiff as a foreign principal, because the parties were in direct communication with one another throughout. The alleged contract of which a breach is now sued upon is said to have arisen upon the following correspondence. —(A) Telegram, 22 September, 1903, Lemaire to Heureux, London. "Please quote lowest quotations 1000 c/- Tin Plates 14 by 20—100 lbs, 112 sheets." (B) Telegram, 22 September, 1903, Heureux, London, to Lemaire. "12/7d. per case tin plates 100 lbs. c. i. f. Hongkong." (C) Telegram, 25 September 1903, Lemaire to Heureux, London. "Accepted (1000 c/- tin plates, 100 lbs at 12/7d. c.i.f. Hongkong). December January shipments. It is expected that some reduction will be done. If necessary, I will deal with other correspondence lower down, but I stop here to consider the arguments addressed to the Court as to the effect of the correspondence set out above.

For the plaintiff it was contended that Telegram "A" means "at what price are you willing to sell 1,000 cases tin plates?" that telegram "B" meant "we are willing to sell at 12/7d. a case," and constituted an offer to sell 1,000 cases at 12/7d., and that telegram "C," by the use of the word "accepted," constituted an acceptance of the offer in "B" and concluded a contract between the parties: further that the additions in "C" of the expressions "December to January shipments" and "It is expected that some reduction will be done" were merely directory expressions and not variations of the terms of the offer said to be made in telegram "B." For the defendant it was contended that "A" was merely an enquiry for terms and not an offer to buy; that "B" was merely a reply to the enquiry and not an offer to sell; and that "C" was an offer to buy on certain terms.

It is not disputed that no reply relating directly to "C" so as to constitute an acceptance if "C" was an offer was received by the defendant Lemaire before he cancelled the offer in "C." Assuming in favour of the plaintiff that "B" constituted an offer to sell 1,000 cases at 12s. 7. c.i.f., Hongkong, it is plain that the acceptance alleged to exist in "C" was not an absolute and unqualified acceptance, but was an acceptance with additional

terms and conditional upon there being December to January shipments. At the most "C" amounts to saying, "I accept your offer subject to your shipping in December to January." Now, it is well known law that an acceptance must be of the very offer made and that a conditional acceptance operates, not to make a contract, but as a fresh offer to contract. In this connection the case of Harvey v. Facey (1893) A.D. 552 is an opposite illustration. In that case, Harvey wired to Facey "Will you sell us B. H. P.? Telegraph lowest cash price." Facey wired back, "Lowest Price for B. H. P. £900." Harvey again wired "We agree to buy B.H.P. for £900 asked by you. Please send us your title-deed in order that we may get early possession." To this Facey made no reply. It was held by the Privy Council that there was no concluded contract between Harvey and Facey to be collected from the aforesaid telegrams. Lord Morris in delivering the judgment of their Lordships said at p. 555:—"The first telegram asks two questions. The first question is as to the willingness of Facey to sell to the appellants; the second question asks the lowest price, and the word 'Telegraph' is, in its collocation, addressed to that second question only. Facey replied to the second question only, and gives his lowest price. The third telegram from the appellants treats the answer of Facey stating his lowest price as an unconditional offer to sell to them at the price named. Their Lordships cannot treat the telegram from Facey as binding him in any respect, except to the extent it does by its terms, viz., the lowest price. Everything else is left open, and the reply telegram from the appellants cannot be treated as an acceptance of an offer to sell to them; it is an offer that required to be accepted by Facey. The contract could only be completed if Facey had accepted the appellants' last telegram. It has been contended for the appellants that Facey's telegram should be read as saying 'yes' to the first question put in the appellants' telegram, but there is nothing to support that contention. Facey's telegram gives a precise answer to a precise question, viz. the price. The contract must appear by the telegrams, whereas the appellants are obliged to contend that an acceptance of the first question is to be implied. Their Lordships are of opinion that the mere statement of the lowest price at which the vendor would sell contains no implied contract to sell at that price to the persons making the inquiry."

In the case now before the Court, I regard the telegram (A) as an enquiry about lowest prices and as containing no tacit enquiry whether Heureux would sell to Lemaire. I regard the telegram (B) as a reply giving the lowest price and not as constituting an offer to sell. I regard the telegram (C) as an offer consisting of Heureux's terms and of other terms. That offer, having been sent by cable, required an acceptance by cable. No such acceptance was forthcoming. Then on the 9th November, 1903, more than six weeks after the offer of 25th September was made, Lemaire wired cancelling all orders. This he was entitled to do in the absence of an acceptance by Heureux: for an offer may always be withdrawn before acceptance. I have said that the offer, having been made by cable, required an acceptance by cable. The distance apart of the parties, the previous telegrams and the presumption arising upon an offer by telegram that a prompt reply is expected (see *Quenerdaine v. Cole* 32 W. R. 185), all point to an acceptance by telegram as the proper and expected mode of acceptance. It may be said that Heureux's conduct in placing an order for the goods with manufacturers amounted to an acceptance. Apart from there being no evidence of this conduct as against the defendant, there could be no communication of such acceptance by conduct between parties separated by thousands of miles: and it is essential to the formation of a contract that acceptance must be communicated, and communicated within a reasonable time.

There will be judgment for defendant with costs.

Eight young Chinamen, having learnt the German language, have been admitted into the German Army. They wear a special uniform designed at headquarters in Berlin.

ALICE MEMORIAL MATERNITY HOSPITAL.

OPENING CEREMONY.

On the 8th instant the Alice Memorial Maternity Hospital in Bonham Road was formally declared open by Mrs. F. H. May, the wife of H.E. F. H. May, Officer Administering the Government of Hongkong. The foundation stone of the new building was laid by Lady Blake on the 25th of July last, and it was expected then that the opening would take place about the end of the year; but various causes have contributed to delay the completion of the work. The hospital is connected with the London Mission and is affiliated to the Alice Memorial and Nethersole Hospitals, to the latter of which it stands adjacent. Its estimated cost was \$13,000. Mr. John Lemm, F.I.A., N.S.W., 64, Queen's Road Central, was the architect, and the building was erected under his supervision. It occupies a ground area of 58 sq. feet by 32 sq. feet, and is a two-storied edifice in the same style of architecture as the adjoining premises. On the ground floor there are two private wards, 12 by 20 feet, each capable of providing ample accommodation for two patients, but according to present arrangements the management intend placing only one bed in each. These two wards are divided by a corridor, leading to the two nurses' rooms, matron's room, and linen stores. On the same floor are situated the kitchen, an amah's room, drying and bath-rooms, etc. The main ward on the first floor is an airy compartment some 30 feet square. Although capable of holding eight beds, it is intended to place in it only four at present, thus giving some 220 square feet of floor space to each. On this floor also are a marble-tiled operating room and lecture room each 10 ft. 6 in. by 13 ft., and night nurse's room, stores, bath-room, etc. This floor has a pleasant outlook across the harbour. The ward windows are provided with glass sashes, mosquito-net sashes, and jalousies, so hung that one-third, two-thirds, or the whole window may be opened. The space under the ground floor is well ventilated, and wherever possible all timber-work is left exposed to the air. The main floors are of bees'-waxed hardwood, and in the private wards the heating is done by means of separate fire-places wherever practicable; the general ward is to be kept comfortable in winter time by central fireplaces. Bells are provided throughout. As a protection from the afternoon sun a balcony has been erected on the west side of the building which is approached by a flight of stone steps immediately behind the Nethersole Hospital. Now that it is completed the new building presents a very handsome appearance, doing credit both to the architect and the builders.

Mrs. May was accompanied by His Excellency F. H. May, C.M.G., the Officer Administering the Government and Captain M. K. Hodgson, S.F., A.D.C. Among others present were Dr. R. Maclean Gibson, superintendent; Dr. Sibree, lady doctor in charge of the Maternity Hospital; Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, C.M.G.; the Rt. Rev. Bishop J. C. Hoare and Mrs. Hoare; Lady Goodman; Hon. A. W. Brewin, Registrar-General, and Mrs. Brewin; Hon. Dr. J. M. Atkinson, Principal Civil Medical Officer, and Mrs. Atkinson; Rev. T. W. Pearce, London Missionary Society; Mr. J. Dyer Ball, Mr. A. Ramjahn, Rev. J. H. France, Seamen's Mission; Rev. H. R. Wells, London Missionary Society; Rev. E. J. Barnett, Church Missionary Society; Mr. Geo. Piercy, jun., Diocesan School; Messrs. Fung Wa Chun, Chan Siu Ki, Chiu Yu Tin, Ma Fat Ting, Wei On, Un Lai Chun, Chau Chenk Fan, Li Pak, Wai Tsin Kai, Dr. Wan Man Kai, Messrs. Kwon Fong Kuk, Au Fung Chi, Wong Chin Lau, Chin Chow San, Chan Pin Kai, Lo Chenk Wan, A Hoi Chon, and Pun Man Hing.

The first part of the proceedings was the presentation to Mrs. May by Dr. Ho Kai of a beautiful bouquet of flowers in a silver holder.

Rev. T. W. PEARCE said:—Mrs. May, your Excellency, ladies and gentlemen.—We are met to open the Alice Memorial Maternity Hospital, a benevolent institution affiliated to the Alice Memorial Hospital in the Hollywood Road and to the Nethersole Hospital, where we are assembled. Before addressing you on the subject of the new building, its history, purpose

and claims on your regard, I would express on behalf of all present unfeigned satisfaction in having with us to-day His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government and Mrs. May. I may say with perfect sincerity that, apart altogether from the distinguished honour which their coming here confers on this ceremony we regard Mrs. May as eminently fitted for the service that she has so graciously consented to render, of formally opening the new hospital. It is much to have Mrs. May with us as the wife of His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government; it is more to have Mrs. May with us as the tried and true friend of all charitable institutions in the Colony. The Alice Memorial Maternity Hospital has been built from plans prepared by Mr. John Lemm, architect, and as some of you will remember, placed on view at the stone-laying in July last. The arrangements, equipment, and appliances of the new hospital are, I understand, up-to-date and well adapted to the purposes which they are intended to serve. On this point, however, I cannot speak with the insight and assurance of one whose previous training and experience qualify him to pronounce an enlightened judgment in matters of the kind. In a few minutes those better able to judge may do so for themselves. After work had been begun it was found the foundations could not be laid on the original plan, which was accordingly departed from, and a further outlay of \$1,091 was thereby entailed. This amount is still unpaid. Architects' fees and other small sums added bring the debit balance to \$2,100. There is also needed money for furnishing and for the purchase of instruments. On entering the building you will observe that the maternity hospital is of modest dimensions quite in keeping with its unpretending appearance. I would, however, seek to impress upon you that the significance of the ceremony which has brought us together is not to be measured by the size or grandeur of the new hospital. "Give me," said the ancient mathematician, "a point outside the world and I will lift the world." In the sphere of medical science, regarded in its most beneficent applications and in relation to the great Chinese race, Hongkong is a point outside the world, and this hospital is one of the forces for lifting the world into new conceptions, new comprehensions, and a new attitude toward Western skill in the kindly, gentle ministry of woman to woman. It is a small hospital to be worked by people of large expectations, large wisdom, and large hearts. When the foundation stone was laid it was intimated that the London Missionary Society had appointed a lady doctor, Dr. Sibree, for special work in the new hospital. Dr. Sibree, who reached Hongkong in November last, has applied herself with no little zeal and energy to the study of Chinese in preparation for the duties that will forthwith devolve upon her. The hospital will be ready for the reception of patients to-morrow, and the lady doctor hopes to commence work outside the Hospital on 1st September. Large expectations for the success of this institution are based on our large hope and large faith in Dr. Sibree. She will be assisted by Miss Langdon, a lady who has had the advantage of a thorough training, and an extended experience in nursing. Miss Langdon has come to us and is remaining with us at her own charges, moved by pure benevolence of desire to help in our hospital's work. Our friend Mrs. Stevens, who after a painful lingering illness died in December last, was assiduous and indefatigable in promoting the scheme which is now realised. We are saddened by the fact that she did not live to see the new building. We are thankful that Mrs. Stevens's successor as matron of the Nethersole Hospital is with us in the person of Miss Wilson. It will thus be seen that in the sphere of woman's work for woman the Hospitals of this compound are well provided with workers, and I cannot imagine ways and means more adapted to appeal to the Chinese than are these kindly, helpful ministries rendered at the time when those who receive them are most susceptible to such forms of appeal. Dr. Gibson, who has laboured patiently and persistently to extend the usefulness of the hospitals, well deserves the success that has followed his endeavours, and he has part of his reward to-day

in the opening of the new building under these favourable auspices. Having spoken of those specially associated with the work of the hospital, I would now make use of this occasion to render honour and thanks where these are so largely due. That we have the Alice Memorial Maternity Hospital and a lady doctor, is chiefly owing to the Chinese gentlemen who came forward as guarantors for five years and who last year approached the London Missionary Society through its local representatives. I should like to tell these gentlemen how thoroughly we appreciate their endeavours and how grateful we are for the aid they have given and are rendering as collectors. There are six gentlemen to whom this new institution is specially indebted, and I should fail in my duty if I did not connect their names with the finished building. These are Mr. Fung Wa Chun, Mr. Ahmet Rumjahn, and Mr. Wai On. There are also Mr. Chau Tung Shang, the chairman of our guarantors, Mr. S. W. Tso, and Chan Sin Ki.

The longer I live the more I am impressed with the fact that the busiest people find time to help others. The person who says "I have no time to render a public service or to aid in a charitable cause" generally means "I have no inclination." The people who really have no time may safely be relied on to help at all times. The gentlemen whose names I have mentioned are busy men. Yet they have found time for much well-directed and well-sustained activity in the interests of these hospitals, and I thank them for what they have attempted and done. It seems to me that these gentlemen and others who are with them in this effort are the bold pioneers of a movement toward a new order of things, and we may admire their courage and zeal as reformers. This hospital has found many supporters because it is to be the training ground of Chinese women in Western midwifery. When we look at the state of things in China in relation to this object, the help these gentlemen are giving cannot be easily over-valued. By Chinese women trained in western midwifery much will be done to change the old order of things, the time-honoured practices which even advanced and enlightened Chinese have not ventured to attack boldly.

We do it wrong being so magnificent,
To offer it he show of violence
says one of the ghost seers when the deceased King of Denmark "revisited the glimpses of the moon." This is the attitude of too many toward old systems in midwifery as in other things. The ghost being so "magnificent" they hesitate to strike it. Our friends are among the first to "offer it the show of violence," and the spectre, which has really nothing to say that is worth listening to, will in due time get itself quietly inurned. I am satisfied that the Chinese gentlemen engaged in this work are helping to make history, and I deem it a privilege to see the beginnings of a movement that is destined to spread through the provinces of China illustrating everywhere Western knowledge and enlightenment in one of its most benevolent and kindly aspects. There is one further word, and this I have to say on behalf of the London Missionary Society, which seeks in its hospital work to alleviate suffering and aid the spread of Western medical knowledge. All the agencies of the Society are related in a definite way to the preaching of the glorious Gospel of the Blessed God. Every part of its work must fall into proper relation with this, its chief aim, or the ends for which the Society exists will not be accomplished. Our friends and supporters are satisfied that on these lines the highest success is to be looked for, in our hospitals as in other departments of our work. When I was in the old country three years ago, I spent part of my time in a region of Scotland to which our beloved late Queen Victoria was accustomed to resort. There I heard a pretty story for the truth of which I can vouch. A young lady, native of India, was studying medicine in Edinburgh with a view, when she returned to her native country, to minister to her suffering sisters as women will be ministered to in this hospital. This young Hindoo woman had long cherished a desire to see the great Queen Empress. And one day her wish became known to the Queen. Her late Majesty sent for the young woman, to whom she spoke freely of medical studies, of

the possibilities of service as a lady doctor in India, and of the reward that came to those who from the purest motives seek to help and heal. In dismissing her the Queen bade the young woman God-speed and uttered the wish that every blessing might rest on her work. This is the best that we look for from our friends and sympathisers. A word of God-speed and a wish—that is also a prayer—that every blessing may attend this work. It is nearly a year since the foundation stone of the building was laid with prayer to Almighty God. We are now about to open the Hospital, and I am sure you will all join in the further prayer that the work done in the building may be for the glory of God and the good of men. (Applause.)

Rev. J. H. FRANCE having offered prayer, Dr. MACLEAN GIBSON called upon Mrs. May to open the hospital.

Dr. Sibree presented Mrs. May with a handsome silver key with which to perform the ceremony, the souvenir bearing the following inscription:—"Presented to Mrs. F. H. May at the opening of the Alice Memorial Maternity Hospital, Hongkong, 7th June, 1904."

The company afterwards walked to the entrance door of the new building, which Mrs. May unlocked and formally declared the hospital open. She expressed the pleasure it gave her to perform the ceremony, and said she thought the institution was a most admirable one and would confer a great benefit upon the Chinese community, and exercise a powerful influence in the spread of greater and more enlightened methods of midwifery. (Applause.)

This concluded the formal proceedings; and after an inspection of the premises the company dispersed.

THE NEW Y.M.C.A. ROOMS.

FORMAL OPENING BY H.E. MR. F. H. MAY.

On the 10th inst. the new rooms of the Young Men's Christian Association on the top floor of Alexandra Buildings were formally declared open by His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government, F. H. May, C.M.G., in presence of a large company of ladies and gentlemen. The rooms were nicely decorated for the occasion. Among those present were Mrs. May, Bishop and Mrs. Hoare, Hon. and Mrs. Barnes-Lawrence, Hon. Gershom Stewart, Major and Mrs. Benson, Rev. and Mrs. Pearce, Rev. Mrs. and Miss Hickling, Rev. and Mrs. France, Rev. Mr. Bridie, Rev. W. G. Southam (secretary), Rev. Mr. Routledge (assistant secretary) and about 200 others.

Rev. W. J. SOUTHAM, the General Secretary, was the first speaker. He said—Your Excellency, my Lord Bishop, ladies and gentlemen,—We are met together this evening under the auspices of one of the most remarkable organisations which the nineteenth century produced. Exactly 60 years ago this movement among young men was inaugurated quietly and without ostentation in a private room of young George Williams, now Sir George Williams; but in that small room the electric button was touched and set in motion forces which increased in momentum as time went on. And what have we to-day? The Young Men's Christian Association, a highly organised, world-wide movement, full of vitality, firmly established in 45 different countries with a membership of nearly 700,000 divided among 6,779 separate associations. This organisation employs 2,037 paid secretaries and owns 875 buildings, the approximate cost of which is nearly seven millions sterling. Those who have had the privilege of seeing this work in Canada and the United States will admit, I think, that it is in those countries that the Young Men's Christian Association has reached the highest level of efficiency. There also is given the best illustration of its scope, and adaptability. No class of men is considered out of its range. There is no college of any kind which has not its college Young Men's Christian Association. In the cities will be found well-organised associations with their business men's departments and railroad departments, and almost without exception these associations command the universal respect and support of the leading business men. There are associations for coloured young men and for Indians, for the sons

of the rich in Fourth Avenue and for the poor in the Bowery. The work of the Association in the East received its first great impetus in 1888, when Mr. McConaughy was sent to Madras. That city has now the finest Association building in the Orient. From year to year new fields have been entered, and flourishing Associations are now at work in Calcutta, Bombay, Colombo, Tokyo, Tientsin, Shanghai and other Eastern cities as well as in Hongkong. Four and a half years ago it was my privilege to come here for the purpose of organising Association work. On carefully studying the field it seemed wise to work along the lines of least resistance, and the result is a flourishing Chinese Association which has now 240 members, and which during the past eight months has had an enrolment of 250 in its evening educational classes. Plans are being made for organising a College Association among the Chinese students, and only a few weeks ago we received a petition from Hunghom signed by 105 names, mostly workmen, asking for organisation among the 10,000 young men there. I mention these facts not only to tell you what is being done in other directions but to illustrate the adaptability of this organisation. But to come to that phase of the work with which we are immediately concerned this evening—I mean the European department—some of us have been looking forward to this event for a long time. Five years ago the problem seemed almost impossible of solution. But nothing is impossible to those who have faith, and our gathering here to-night is an evidence of this. Those who believe in the need for and the possibility of this institution are more than rewarded to-night. These rooms—126 members will to-night take possession of them—and this opening reception graced by your Excellency's presence, are some of the tangible results of faith followed by works. This has been brought about not through the efforts of any one individual, but by co-operation. His Excellency from the first has given this work his heartiest approval and support, and his presence here to-night is another endorsement of it. Most of the leading business men have given practical evidence of their interest in the movement, and their willingness to give it a fair test while among the members themselves are those who with faith, enthusiasm and personal effort have stood together with the vision of an European department before them, and now the vision has been transformed into a reality. I should like to mention some names, but most of us will know who these men are. As a result of the united efforts of those whom I have referred to we stand to-night in this beautiful building, which you have seen for yourselves, of a fully organised Young Men's Christian Association. We realise that there are many problems yet to be solved, but we now stand ready to endeavour to carry out the purpose of the Young Men's Christian Association. And what is this purpose? To put it briefly it is this—the all-round development of men. With this as our purpose the neglect of any one side of men's nature means failure in the purpose. We realise that some associations have failed because they have neglected to consider the whole man. The carrying out of this purpose therefore involves religious, social, physical and intellectual work. To take first of all the religious—we consider this of paramount importance and the rock upon which our work is founded. It is the secret of success. We plan to have attractive weekly meetings, Bible classes and wholesome manly companionship of Christian men. Attendance at these meetings and classes of course is absolutely voluntary. No man need fear that he is going to have religion pushed down his throat. We trust that there will be no namby-pambyism, and our conception of a religious man is that of a clean, square man measuring up in some degree to the Divine Man. Then as to social work, we are planning to have "At homes" with popular talks, receptions and indoor games. There is a billiard-table and musicals, and also in this connection furnished bed-rooms and a dining-room. In other words, we want to make this place a home for those away from home. It is scarcely necessary for me to mention the physical work because it is obvious. Swimming, tennis, cycling, football or any other outdoor sports for which there may

be a demand will be encouraged and planned for. A gymnasium would be a great boon if some philanthropist will provide us with one. As to the intellectual work, a gentleman said to me the other day that if we could do anything to awaken the intellectual life of the place we should be doing good work, and this is just what we plan and hope to do. To this end educational classes will be formed in such subjects as French, German, Chinese, or whatever there may be a demand for. It may be interesting to note here that during the past three months we have had a class for the study of colloquial Chinese which has been attended on an average by 15 students. It was conducted by the Rev. William Bridie and a Chinese teacher, and Western methods of teaching were adopted. We fully expect to resume this class again after the hot weather. There will also be popular lectures on science, art and literature and questions of the day. A literary society and debating club and a camera club will also have their place in the intellectual development, while there is also a reading-room well equipped with most of the best magazines and papers of Great Britain and North America. We intend to have an organisation here, and shall leave no stone unturned to have it, which will command the respect and support of the business men of the community and to which no man need ever feel ashamed to come. We want this to be a place for the development of all-round men, and surely no higher purpose than this is conceivable. We are most of us acquainted with the fierce temptations which assail men in the East. We want to help men to overcome them. We want to strengthen the weak, to unite them with the strong, and to help develop a sentiment in favour of clean, manly, God-like manhood. (Applause.)

Mrs. GORDON then sang a much-appreciated song.

Hon. GERSHOM STEWART said:—Your Excellency, my Lord Bishop, ladies and gentlemen—This is the first time that I have ever taken a leading part in anything approaching a religious function. I admit I was somewhat in evidence at my christening—and at my marriage I occupied a prominent although entirely subordinate position. (laughter.) As far as my recollection serves me on both of those occasions I felt nervous and uncomfortable, and when they were over I returned with relief to my customary seclusion. I confess to a recurrence of a similar feeling to-night, but my position here, however, has been so clearly defined for me by the General Secretary, that I feel less diffidence than I might otherwise do under the circumstances, in addressing an audience such as this upon an occasion like the present. When Mr. Southam asked me to say something at the opening of this institution I said "No, I am not good enough." "Oh," said he, with a beaming smile, "that is the very reason we want you; we want to have people of all sorts." As therefore I cannot be accused of assuming a claim to a sanctity I do not possess, I have attended to-night to give what support I can to an institute which contains very great possibilities for good. I feel it a great honour to be asked to do so, and I think you have begun well by opening your gates to both sheep and goats. If you are to do great good you must cater for both, and as the representative of the latter I hope that you will always maintain a similar attitude. The manager of the Young Men's Christian Association will always have to display considerable tact in discriminating as to who shall and who shall not be admitted into an association such as this, and as to what sort of amusements and recreations are to be encouraged amongst its members. I hope when you are in doubt as to the proper course to pursue and the pros and cons are about equal, that you will always incline the balance more towards liberality and openness than towards exclusiveness. I suppose I am here as representing in a measure that unknown quantity called the man-in-the street, and I know that you want to get as many of the outside public as possible inside your institution. The man-in-the street is often credited with more wisdom than he has got, just as he is often debited with more iniquity than can be justly put to his account. That he takes a great interest in the affairs of this world his daily avocations show. I take it that you want

him to take a greater interest in the affairs of the next world, and so have started this association. Well, as you desire to do this outside worldling good, you wish him to come here. You do not want to scare him away or your influence for good will be curtailed and your monetary position will become strained. Do you mind my giving you a few ideas on this point? They may not accord with the opinions of some, but they are made in good part, as I hope they will be received. Don't try and force religion down people's throats too strongly at the start. Good it is, and so is water; but you don't want always to be drinking water. Get your men in and let them shake themselves into the ranks their natural proclivities incline them to. Some will gravitate towards athletics, some to more active religious observances, some to your library and intellectual enjoyment, and so on. We have little intellectual life here, and the Odd Volumes Society, which is the only organized body devoting itself in that particular direction, has been kept alive by Mr. Pollock. A literary and debating society might be a useful thing for this body to inaugurate, and if you develop your institution at all points the religious side of it will naturally benefit.

I am old enough to remember the great work done in England by Messrs. Moody and Sankey and can testify to the great influence for good brought into England by those two eminent men. But I think their influence would have been even greater if their efforts had not at times been marred by the sometimes tactless and ill-chosen advocacy of some of their followers who constituted themselves amateur missionaries. I remember quite well the risks one ran of being attacked in the most unexpected manner in all sorts of places by earnest but aggressive people, in the train, or at a cricket match for instance. One might be suddenly addressed by an entire stranger with a remark such as, "Young man, are you saved?" It gave one a most uncomfortable shock, and one felt that there was something wrong in the perfectly innocent occupation of the moment, especially if the revivalist should be a fierce-looking person who looked at you with a threatening eye which seemed to say, "If we both die in five minutes I am all right, but you are going straight to Hell!" We will not enter into the controversial subject as to whether errors of this sort are to be met with eternal punishment in the next, but it was not fair to say, to say the least of it, and often defeated the very object these good people had in view. Is it not possible these ill-chosen exhortations arose from a lack of humility? Of all the Christian virtues humility appears to me to be the rarest. It somehow is a virtue which seems to recommend itself to very few. Amongst the particular section of the great country to which I belong I never remember meeting any individual distinguished for it. In fact if I meet a real humble-minded Scotchman I shall certainly be anxious as to the state of his general health. Whatever the cause, it is a virtue of a rare order, and yet we as Christians have ample cause to indulge in it when we reflect that in 1900, when Christian and non-Christian troops came shoulder to shoulder in North China, the non-Christian troops were distinguished far beyond all others for mercy and forbearance. The religious temperament is not evenly distributed; it is naturally much more developed in some natures than in others, just as the intellectual and physical capacity of one man is different from that of another. Now the strongly religious you have always with you; but if you wish to get in the others, don't try them too high at the start. Don't let a youngster think that he must go to a religious service because he comes here. Leave him alone and he will take part all right when he feels drawn towards it. Besides, some are more sensitive than others, and to parade the secrets of the heart to the public is to some natures intolerable. Besides, you want the place to be self-supporting, and you don't want to frighten anyone away. You will be handicapped by the fact that this is a teetotal institution. I think you might consider the advisability of making it also a ready-money club. Chits are a relic of old days when folks had to carry lumps of silver. They have served

their purpose, and nowadays have often ill-effects, for many a youngster finds at the end of the month that he has spent much more than he ever intended to. On the other hand, there are some unscrupulous ones who do not pay their chits, so in two ways you might do good by avoiding them. There might be some system of men keeping a deposit with the secretary, if they do not want to carry money about with them. It cannot be denied that in the commercial world, the outward show of religion has again and again been used by unscrupulous people as a cloak by which they were able to obtain an unfair advantage over their unsuspecting neighbours. It is this which has given rise to a very general prejudice against the introduction of religion into the business atmosphere. It is for every man to live so that he may remove such a prejudice, and to do all he can so that that reproach can never be brought against him. You will understand my point. It is against the individual and not against our religion. Just as in all the errors perpetrated under the name of religion, men have quoted it with their lips, but lacking it in their hearts have violated the spirit of it to suit their private ends. With the object of this institution there can be nothing but entire and hearty sympathy and approval. It is only with regard to the best way to attain the object it has in view that there can be any possible difference of opinion. It is in the hope that the points I have brought forward may help to elucidate possible difficulties which you may be called upon to face that I have ventured to touch upon them. All thinking men who know the pitfalls and temptations which beset the footsteps of young men at all times and in all places—and nowhere are they more plentiful than in the East—will in spirit give this institution their hearty support. The list of subscriptions and guarantees shows that they are also backing it with their money. Its success of course rests mainly on the number of members you can get to support it. That essential will be in a great degree facilitated or retarded by the spirit in which you direct its movements. I personally have every hope that under the enlightened body of directors and under the liberal-hearted and genial influence of your General Secretary your efforts will meet with unbounded success. I am sure that you will ever remember that the Gospel of Peace and Goodwill has been sent into the world for the benefit and consolation of sinner and saint alike. In the widest spirit of charity and good fellowship, one man towards another, I feel sure you will pursue your course, and in years to come I hope and believe that those who have founded this institution will have the satisfaction of feeling that their labours have been rewarded and that the seed sown to-night has been blessed with much good fruit. From my heart I wish the Y.M.C.A. God-speed and much prosperity. (Applause.)

In the interval a song was sung by Mrs. Gordon, Mr. A. G. Ward accompanying on the piano. A song was also sung by Mr. G. H. Edwards.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE OFFICER ADMINISTERING THE GOVERNMENT:—My Lord Bishop, Ladies, and Gentlemen,—Mr. Southam and Mr. Gershom Stewart in the eloquent addresses they have delivered have covered so much ground that there remains little for me to say. There is one point that I would like to speak to you about for a few moments. When we were considering the question of inaugurating this association the subject of its name came under discussion. It was suggested that if we dropped the word Christian out of the name we might find it easier to get young men to join us. After full consideration we determined to retain the word. Why should we have dropped it? You have heard from Mr. Southam that we welcome here anyone be he a professing Christian or not, who thinks our Association may supply a want he feels. All we ask is respect for Christian morality. And is it not worthy of respect? Is there anything to be ashamed of in it? Has not Christianity done much for the world, much for the British Empire? Look for a moment at that Empire. Does not Mercy enthroned smile upon it? Does not the lamp of Truth shine brightly there? Does not Justice with outstretched hand hold within reach of the people her

impartial scales? Does not Hope illumine the hearts of her toiling children—the hope of forgiveness that is born of repentance, the hope of reconciliations, neglected in this life, to be made in the life hereafter? Can you say the same for all non-Christian countries? No man need be ashamed of giving his moral support, if he can give no other, to an institution bearing the name of Christian. And in these later days Christianity wants your support. Christianity has ever known how to repel the attacks of those who assail her openly with the naked sword of unbelief, but the attacks of those who stab her in the back with sneers and gibes and scoffings are more difficult to deal with. I assert that in the belittling of religion there is national danger. We talk of an army re-organised by a brand new Army Council; of a Navy rich in every appliance that the devilish ingenuity of man can devise for hurling our enemies into eternity. But what are 50 such armies and navies worth without a nation of steadfast, earnest and honest men to wield them? Our old time religion is a national asset which if a man would impair he is no true friend of his country. Therefore let us be careful how we trifle with religious questions. If we are not endowed with Faith, let us at any rate show respect for those who are. Let us give a moral support to the majority, for after all the vast majority of Englishmen are still Christian. Let us not by word or action encourage or support the enemies of our national religion. With these few words I welcome you here. You have in Mr. Southam and Mr. Routledge, who have been sent out by the International Committee of the Y. M. C. A. of North America at the request of the National Council of the Y. M. C. A. of England, who were unable to undertake the work here, two men eminently fitted for the work in hand. Our thanks are due to both of them, and especially to Mr. Southam, for all the work they have done for us so far, and to the International Committee of the Y. M. C. A. of North America, which is partly a British and partly an American Institution for helping us by sending them. Your Directors have at great expense taken and fitted up these rooms. Remember that the rent alone for which Mr. Southam and I are directly responsible amounts to no less than \$10,800 a year. It is for you now to put your shoulders to the wheel and make this association a success. You can do so by assisting the management in practising economy and by your conduct and example making the association so popular that it will speedily gain in membership. I feel sure that a good work has been done this night for our Colony and the country, for the association of a body of sober-minded, earnest men constitutes a centrifugal force the influence of which must and will be widely felt. —(Applause.)

Mrs. Gordon closed the programme with a song. The large company then proceeded to refreshments and afterwards dispersed.

HONGKONG AND QUEENSLAND.

CHINESE MERCHANTS' BANQUET TO A COMMISSIONER.

Mr. Frederic Jones, North Pacific Trade Commissioner for Queensland, was on the 6th inst. banquetted by Mr. Chu Wun Man, compradore of Messrs. Barretto & Co., and other Chinese merchants at the Hong Fa Lan. There were present Messrs. Chu Wun Man (chairman); Leung Ngan Pun, director of the Yan On Insurance Co., Ltd.; A. A. H. Botelho; Chun Poi Kai, Trustee of the Tung Wah Hospital; J. F. Eça da Silva; In Ku Un, compradore of the International Banking Corporation; A. M. da Cruz; Francisco Tse Yat, coal and general merchant; O. C. Barretto; Yip Chew, piece goods broker; P. J. Botelho; Leung Wai Lum, rice-merchant of the Fook Sing Loong; Cheong Chong Chi, coal merchant and stevedore; Ho-Sing Hing, provision merchant of the Nam Hing Loong; Wu Kun Shiak, manager of the Hang Loong Firm; Li Tong Wing, merchant; Tang Kwai Pok, compradore of the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha; Ho Tung San, flour-merchant of Tuck Hing & Co.; Chit Cheong, coal merchant; Tang Kan Si, manager of the Wing On Bank; Yue Chak Sing, merchant of the Wing Cheong Sing; Leung I Lan, coal merchant; Choi Chung Yik,

manager of the Kai Hing Yarn and Opium firm; Chu Tong, iron and provision broker; Leung King Ting, merchant; Wong Lan Po, rattan manufacturer; Fung Oi Chin, opium merchant; Lun Tai, rattan manufacturer; Ng Si Kue, flour and general merchant; George Fook Sheng, merchant; and others.

The entertainment was typically Chinese there being the usual instrumentalists to keep things lively. The menu, being rather curious to the Westerner, is worth reproducing:

Sweet Pork Cutlets and Sweet Salad.
Duck Kidneys and Pickled Turnips.
Canton Stewed Duck, Mushrooms and other Vegetables.
Nanking Preserved Eggs, and Assorted Sauce.
Stewed Sharks Fins with Chicken Broth.
Crabs' Flesh made in Croquets.
Birds' Nest Gruel.
Pigeons' Eggs, Ham and Fungus Soup.
Capon, Ham and Fat Pork Sandwich.
Minced Chicken with String Beans.
Fried Frogs with Pickles.
Beche-de-Mer, Ham and Chicken Soup.
Roast Home-fed Sucking Pig, with Sour Chile Sauce.
Pan Cake and Vegetable.
Water Chestnut Jelly.
Assorted Coloured Cakes.
Fried Sweet Pie. Almond Cream.
Ric and Chile Minced Meat, Preserved Salt Eggs.
Short and Long Beans, Minced Ham, Salt Duck.
Nanking Bean Curd.
Almonds Roasted, Melon Seed, Fruits Assorted.
Tea. Wines.

Dinner concluded, the CHAIRMAN toasted King Edward, and afterwards Mr. LEUNG NGAN PUN proposed the Emperor of China.

Mr. LEUNG NGAN PUN, in proposing the toast of "Prosperity to Queensland" coupled with it the name of the Premier, the Hon. Arthur Morgan, and said that whereas Australia was a very, very young country, China was old, old, old. Chinese civilisation, in fact, went back to a time when Australia was joined to the mainland of Asia, it then being barren and covered with salt lakes—not a place for the lowest human life to exist. He revered his Emperor and loved his country as greatly as Australia loved its mother, England. The mandarins of Queensland were doing a wise thing in sending an envoy to speak on friendly terms to the Chinese merchants.

Mr. A. A. H. BOTELHO in responding said there was a great future before Queensland if its people only followed their Trade Commissioner's advice and suggestions, and were careful not to despise anything as being too trifling or troublesome. His extensive business connections had brought him into contact commercially with many Australians, and he thought he might safely say that he was expressing the general opinion of Hongkong merchants when he said that the probity and straightforward business methods of Australian commercial men were a distinguishing feature. He hoped that the new Federal Government would prove worthy of its position. In an advanced democracy like that of Australia the labour party was a factor that had to be intelligently dealt with, but he considered that the labour party could advance along the lines of a constructive socialism in co-operation with the merchants and manufacturers.

Mr. IN KU UN in proposing "Our Guest" (Mr. Jones) said that as the Trade Commissioner of Queensland they welcomed Mr. Jones heartily. They all hoped that the time was approaching when peace would dwell in Eastern Asia. War had its good as well as its evil side. The present war meant great issues for China as well as for other Asiatic peoples. The Queensland Government, however, had acted wisely in sending a representative to China during the present crisis. It meant that Australia believed there was a great future in front of China and Japan, and Australian sympathy in a time like this would be remembered when the war was over and peace restored.

Mr. FREDERIC JONES in responding expressed his pleasure at meeting such a representative gathering of the Chinese merchants of Hongkong. It had been said that Queensland was a young country, and he admitted it. They were very few in number, only 500,000 people on 500,000,000 acres of land. It was intended, though, to make Queensland a great commercial country. Mr. Morgan impressed him with the fact that

if they wished to do business with China they must see the Chinese merchants and learn exactly what they wanted. He had had a busy three weeks in doing that, and the time had been well spent. His Government wished to encourage good relations with the Chinese merchants at Hongkong, Shanghai, Canton, and other marts of commerce which he hoped to visit. He would tell his chief in Queensland how nobly they had treated him, and Mr. Morgan would send back to them his acknowledgements and best wishes in his capacity of chief representative of the Colony of Queensland. He hoped to meet them all again.

Mr. A. A. H. BOTELHO toasted "the Press," Mr. T. C. SWABY responding, and an enjoyable evening shortly afterwards was brought to a close.

CORRESPONDENCE.

A GROWING SCANDAL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR,—Can you explain the action of the authorities in dispersing the European women from Lyndhurst Terrace and allowing them to settle in those parts of the city inhabited by respectable families? Surely this cannot be allowed to go on. Such blunders as this are not excusable and should be remedied without delay. There seems to be no proper control of this matter, as the town is being filled by undesirables of all nationalities, and now one is accosted in the street—a thing that should not be allowed.

Surely the state of things at present existing in Hongkong is not likely to improve the opinion of Asiatics towards us Europeans.—Yours, &c.,
ANGLIAN.

THE FERRY LANDING.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR,—Now that the Star Ferry Co. are obliged to reconstruct their ferry landing on the Hongkong side, might I suggest that they make a structure in keeping with the surroundings? The jetty to which the steamboats run is situated in the most beautiful part of Victoria City. Of course it is difficult to construct an elaborate affair on such flimsy foundations, as typhoons would soon make short work of it. What could be done, though, is to encircle the pier with neat metal hand-rails after the same fashion as Blake Pier.—Yours, etc.,
KOWLOONITE.

PORTUGUESE AND PLAGUE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Canton, 7th June.

SIR,—Looking at the number of patients admitted into the Infectious Diseases Hospital at Hongkong during 1903 suffering from plague, one cannot help being struck by the very small number of Portuguese attacked by the dread disease. I have not the figures of the last census at hand, but I believe I am not wrong in stating that the Portuguese greatly outnumber the European community.

Of the latter 27 were admitted against only 3 of the former, and against 55 of nationalities other than Chinese—a remarkable fact which cannot be accounted for by better feeding and healthier surroundings, since the Portuguese, taking the community as a whole, have more limited means, and are more poorly housed than the Europeans. It will be very interesting to trace the cause of their immunity, almost complete, from a disease which respects no race or nationality.—Yours, &c.,

SANITAS.

[Our correspondent is mistaken in his supposition that the Portuguese greatly outnumber the European community. According to the last census returns (1901) the Europeans and Americans in the Colony other than Portuguese numbered 3,860, while the number of Portuguese was 1,956. There still remains, however, a most noteworthy difference in the ratio.—ED. D.P.]

AN INQUIRY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

6th June, 1904.

SIR,—Can you give me any information about a certain "Yun Ngoy Hospital," Yaumati? A well-dressed Chinaman brought me a written subscription form, which stated that the directors of the above hospital among other things "serve out tea to those who care to partake of it," and begging for funds to carry on the good work. As no directors' names were mentioned, and my Chinese interpreter had never heard of such an institution, I wondered whether the numerous firms whose names appear as subscribers were being victimised, or whether the Yun Ngoy Hospital is really "worthy of the support of Europeans and Chinese."—Yours, etc.

INQUIRER.

[We have not been able to learn that a hospital bearing this name exists.—ED.]

THE Y.M.C.A. AND OUR DEFENDERS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Sir,—May I ask if soldiers are to be admitted to the Young Men's Christian Association at Hongkong; and if not, why not? They come out here not to enrich themselves but to defend those who are doing so. Many of them would show an example of the manly, humble, Christianity which, with Mr. Gershom Stewart, we wish to see ousting self-righteous namby-pambyism. Not a few too can sing a good song which would help much.

I remain yours truly,

E. J. HARDY,
Chaplain H.M. Forces.

Hongkong, 11th June.

CANTON NOTES.

[FROM THE "CHUNG NGOI SAN PO."]

FINANCIAL SCHEMES.

It is reported that Viceroy Shum, finding that he is handicapped in carrying on the works of the Government on account of the financial difficulty, proposes to obtain a loan of 3,000,000 taels from the people, repayable in ten years by instalments at the rate of 7 per cent. per mensem, the security being the revenue of the gambling farms. Certificates of one hundred taels each will be issued, and the Commissioner of Customs of Canton will have the matter entirely under his management. The certificates can be employed to pay all sorts of taxes. The loan is especially wanted to purchase firearms and ammunition, to establish a police force, and to build railroads.

COUNTERFEITERS RAIDED.

On the 25th ultimo the Pun-yu magistrate went with some officers and soldiers to a house in Tung-Yin-Lane, East of Canton, where appliances and dies for making counterfeit small coins were found, together with several hundred pieces of counterfeit twenty-cent, ten-cent, and five-cent pieces. Five persons, including a young woman, were arrested and brought back to the Pun-yu magistracy. They pleaded guilty, and said that small coins to the value of a hundred dollars were sold to the people for thirty dollars.

THE OPIUM TAX.

The Canton high authorities have deputed officers to reorganise the prepared opium-tax. An office has been established in the Great Monk Monastery for this purpose. On the 2nd inst. the local magistrates were ordered to ascertain and report the names of the opium-divans and the prepared-opium shops together with the names of the different owners within their jurisdiction.

EDUCATION.

It is reported that the scholars selected by the Educational Department to proceed to foreign countries to complete their education, will leave Canton on the 22nd instant for their various destinations. Those that have been chosen to go to Europe and America are under the control of one Chan-Kam-To, a former pupil of Queen's College.

PAKHOI.

June 4.

THE ACTING BRITISH CONSUL.

Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Pearson arrived here on the 24th ult. Mr. Pearson has assumed the charge of the British Consulate, while Mr. M. Hughes, who had come from Hoihow on the 9th ult. to await the arrival of Mr. Pearson to hand over to him the charge of the Consulate, left on the 2nd instant for his post in Kiungchow.

THE CUSTOMS.

Mr. Robert Henkel, examiner I. M. Customs, was transferred to Hoihow as Acting Tide Surveyor and Harbour Master vice Mr. G. A. For-saith, who is going home on leave.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Pastor Witt, of the Kiel Mission here, accompanied by Mrs. Witt, Misses (2) and Master Witt, left on the 2nd instant on furlough.

The German man-of-war *Tiger* left the port on the 21st ult., after two days' stay.

MANILA NOTES.

CHINAMAN WINS HIS CASE.

The Hawaiian-born Chinaman, who claimed to be an American citizen, has been admitted into the islands. This important test case has been before the Court for some time.

CORPUS CHRISTI.

On Corpus Christi a parade started from the cathedral at 5.30, went down Calle Palacio, along Calle Victoria to Calle Solana and returned to the cathedral by Calle Santo Tomas. Thousands joined in it. During the early hours of the evening the streets were lined with worshippers wending their way to the evening exercises, and the thoroughfares were blocked for several hours. In this connection it might be stated that not only the religious festival is remembered, but thirty-one years ago on that day the islands were visited by one of the most disastrous earthquakes known in the archipelago's history. The old cathedral which stood on the site of the present structure was completely destroyed. Hundreds of people lost their lives in the terrible catastrophe. The earthquake occurred between three and four o'clock in the afternoon as services were in progress in the cathedral. The falling of the cathedral killed hundreds, among them many padres, and hundreds were killed in other portions of the city.

THE CITY OF MANILA.

Governor Taft's report for 1903 contains some items particularly interesting to Hongkong on account of the similarity of many existing circumstances.—During the year about 150 buildings were condemned and ordered to be removed. Much has been done in the way of repairs to streets, widening streets, and giving the city a modern cleaning every day. Of course the absence of the sewerage system entails very heavy expense in the introduction of the pail-system. The falling-off of the population of the city of Manila between 1900 and 1903 from 260,000 to 221,000, as shown by two censuses, is not inexplicable. In 1900 there was much disturbance throughout the country, and the insurrection had not ceased in many parts. The effect of the insurrection upon those who were wealthy or who had money enough to come into Manila was very marked, and they fled to Manila as a place of refuge. As soon, however, as conditions became more tranquil they went to the country, so that the reduction in the population of Manila is a significant evidence of the tranquility of the provinces. The introduction and maintenance of a modern fire system and a metropolitan and native police force, and of an effective street-cleaning gang are all shown in the report of the city. There is considerable doubt as to what ought to be done about taking down the walls of the walled city of Manila and how the open spaces in the city ought to be improved.

There are in the city itself and in the environs of the city great opportunities for beautifying the landscape, and it is hoped that in time the city of Manila will be made the handsomest city in the Orient. Improvements are expensive, however, and must be accordingly slow.

Manila is interlaced with what are called esteros, small creeks or arms of the sea that

are useful for navigation and that are now made the vehicle for much of the deleterious sewage of the town. The rise and fall of the tide assists in carrying off the sewage, but the fall of the tide exposes the mud and filth of the bottom to the sun in such a way as probably to produce illness. The ultimate hope of the introduction of the sewerage system into the city is that the esteros not useful for navigation may be filled, and that those which are useful for navigation may be, as the term is, canalized, that is, dredged out and have their banks walled so that the coming and going of the tides shall only cleanse the water without exposing the filthy bottom. A comprehensive sewer system would take much away from the esteros and would leave them to discharge only the useful function of cheap transportation.

THE CHINA LIGHT AND POWER CO., LD.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The third ordinary annual meeting of shareholders in the China Light and Power Company, Limited, was held on 9th inst. at the offices of the Company, 14, Des Vœux Road. Mr. C. A. Tomes presided, and there were also present Hon. Sir Paul Chater, C.M.G., Mr. H. P. White, Dr. J. W. Noble (consulting committee), Messrs. A. G. Gordon, A. Babington, Fung Wa Chun, and R. Henderson (secretary).

The SECRETARY having read the notice convening the meeting,

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen.—Unless a request is made to do so we shall save time by omitting, as usual, the reading of the report. The Company has made considerable advance since the last meeting, and we hope for steady progress now towards a dividend basis. The Chinese demand for the light in Canton is as active as we could wish, and we have all the new instalment work in hand to which we can conveniently attend. The number of skilled wiremen is limited and all we have are fully occupied, and others are taken on as fast as they become educated. The large fire in the Canton native city in February was unfortunate for us, as besides the destruction of poles, wires, transformers, etc., our revenue was curtailed for some months. Of the three main engines lately ordered one is in position, and was started in April and is doing very well, and the second is nearly ready; the smaller one for the day load is now running, and relieves the strain previously borne by the main engine, and will give a more satisfactory and economical supply of current. Almost all the foreign residents in Shameen are customers of the Company, and in the native city the wiremen are entering the official district and the houses of the well-to-do gentry. The revenue from the Kowloon plant increases slowly, but profitable business is bound to come in time as there can be no doubt about the future importance and development of the peninsula. The accounts are very fully set forth in the printed sheet. All important capital expenditure we trust has come to a stop for some time to come. On line and installations further outlay must continue as business grows, but this should be partly met by revenue and we hope to expend nothing further for the present on buildings or machinery. Depreciation was amply provided for in the account of July 31st last, so nothing has been allowed on this score in the February account. Arrangements are still in progress about the new shares, and we have received applications for some 10 per cent. of the authorised new issue. If any shareholder should want a portion he has only to apply, as it is desirable the Company's floating indebtedness should be reduced.

No questions being asked,

The CHAIRMAN proposed and Sir PAUL CHATER seconded that the report and accounts be adopted.

The motion was agreed to.

On the motion of Mr. FUNG WA CHUN, seconded by Mr. A. BABINGTON, Hon. Sir Paul Chater, Dr. J. W. Noble and Mr. H. P. White were re-elected to the consulting committee.

Mr. GORDON proposed, Dr. NOBLE seconded, and it was agreed that Messrs. W. H. Potts and A. O'D. Gourdin be re-elected auditors.

This was all the business.

The report of the Company reads as follows:—

Annexed we beg to lay before shareholders the annual statement of accounts. These accounts are in two sets, one closed on 31st July last owing to the reduction of capital and consequent re-adjustment, and the other brought to the end of the usual financial year in February.

Again we have to record disappointment on account of unforeseen delay and unexpected expense in installing the improved machinery at Canton. The new work is, however, now almost quite complete, two of the new engines are running, and we are beginning to realise some profit at last. Business is less satisfactory at Kowloon, as, although the plant is in fine order and complete, we have not at present the field there we should like to have, and the time and attention of the Superintendent has been so occupied with the new Canton installation it has not been exploited as it should be. The Company has been rather short-handed in its technical staff and many changes have had to be made. A new electrician for Canton arrived in January last and one for Kowloon is now on the way, and this reinforcement of employees should prove ample.

The financial measures authorised by the special meeting in August last have been partly carried out. Debentures have been taken to three-fourths of the approved issue, but the new shares up to the end of the financial year were not in request. Since that date application has been made for some part of them, and arrangements are being made for placing more.

Consulting Committee.—Mr. J. H. Lewis having left the Colony Mr. H. P. White was invited to join the Consulting Committee. In accordance with the Articles of Association, the Hon. Sir Paul Chater, C.M.G., Dr. J. W. Noble, and Mr. H. P. White retire but offer themselves for re-election.

Auditors.—The accounts have been audited by Messrs. W. H. Potts and A. O'D. Gourdin, who are recommended for re-election.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

28th February, 1903, to 31st July, 1903.

	\$	c.
Balance brought forward	57,053.76	
Auditors' fees	83.33	
Consulting committee's fees	625.00	
Interest	8,070.94	
Charges	4,762.70	
Exchange	172.00	
Amount written off as depreciation	60,319.07	
Balance of Canton working account	5,711.54	
Balance of Kowloon working account	13,201.66	
	<u>\$150,000.00</u>	

	\$	c.
Balance applied to reduction of capital in accordance with the special resolutions passed on the 27th June, 1903, and confirmed on the 13th July, 1903	150,000.00	
	<u>\$150,000.00</u>	

BALANCE-SHEET.

28th February, 1903, to 31st July, 1903.

	\$	c.
Capital 15,000 shares at \$20 each fully paid	300,000.00	
China Provident Loan & Mortgage Co., Ltd.	168,591.07	
Sundry creditors	17,951.15	
Company's bankers	76,632.45	
	<u>\$563,174.67</u>	

	\$	c.
Kowloon—		
Land	32,770.18	
Buildings and machinery	\$149,491.70	
Less depreciation	9,491.70	
	<u>140,000.00</u>	
Furniture	248.00	
Lines	27,970.08	
Less depreciation	7,970.08	
	<u>20,000.00</u>	
Materials, stores, fuel, &c. in stock valued at	38,225.16	
Canton—		
Buildings and machinery	170,220.45	
Less depreciation	34,720.45	
	<u>135,500.00</u>	
Furniture	306.95	
Less depreciation	3.23	
	<u>303.72</u>	
Lines	22,233.61	
Less depreciation	7,133.61	
	<u>15,100.00</u>	
Materials, stores, fuel, &c. in stock valued at	13,436.91	
Proportion of premia on current fire insurance policies	777.74	

Sundry debtors	11,154.41
Cash in hand	6,858.55
Balance of profit and loss account	150,000.00
	<u>\$563,174.67</u>

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

31st July, 1903 to 29th February, 1904.

	\$	c.
Auditors' fees	116.67	
Consulting committee's fees	875.00	
Interest	18,763.59	
Charges	1,617.37	
Exchange	87.41	
Balance carried forward	3,739.03	
	<u>\$23,199.07</u>	
Balance of Canton working account	9,543.81	
Balance of Kowloon working account	3,676.55	
Balance outside contracts account	9,978.71	
	<u>\$23,199.07</u>	

BALANCE-SHEET.

31st July, 1903 to 29th February, 1904.

	\$	c.
LIABILITIES.		
Capital, authorised 30,000 shares at \$10 each issued 15,000 shares at \$10 each	150,000.00	
Debentures, at 8 per cent	150,000.00	
China Provident Loan & Mortgage Co., Ltd.	118,285.55	
Sundry creditors	54,167.78	
Company's bankers	73,031.32	
Balance of profit and loss account	3,739.03	
	<u>\$547,223.68</u>	

	\$	c.
ASSETS.		
Kowloon—		
Land	32,770.18	
Buildings and machinery	\$140,000.00	
Since expended	418.50	
	<u>140,418.50</u>	
Furniture	248.00	
Since expended	17.00	
	<u>266.00</u>	
Lines	20,000.00	
Since expended	5,678.58	
	<u>25,678.58</u>	
Materials, stores, fuel, &c. in stock valued at	55,675.44	
Canton—		
Buildings and machinery	135,500.00	
Since expended	51,286.04	
	<u>186,786.04</u>	
Furniture	303.72	
Since expended	29.96	
	<u>333.68</u>	
Lines	15,100.00	
Since expended	11,451.91	
	<u>26,551.91</u>	
Materials, stores, fuel, &c. in stock valued at	35,828.72	
Proportion of premia on current fire insurance policies	422.96	
Sundry debtors	39,538.02	
Cash in hand	2,954.65	
	<u>\$547,223.68</u>	

ROYAL HONGKONG GOLF CLUB.

The following cards were returned at the monthly meeting held at Happy Valley from the 4th to the 6th June, 1904:—

CAPTAIN'S CUP.

The Bishop of Victoria	88	—	12	=	76
Mr. J. Rodgers	90	—	12	=	78
Mr. T. S. Forrest	76	+	3	=	79
Mr. A. Boyd	97	—	18	=	79
Mr. J. Johnstone	85	—	5	=	80
Mr. W. D. Kraft	96	—	15	=	81
Dr. Drew, R.N.	92	—	10	=	82
Mr. W. W. G. Ross	95	—	13	=	82
Mr. T. C. Gray	97	—	14	=	83
Mr. C. A. Parker, R.N.	92	—	6	=	86
Mr. R. T. Sayle	101	—	15	=	86

38 entries.

POOL.

Mr. A. Boyd	93	—	18	=	75
Mr. J. Rodgers	90	—	12	=	78
Mr. T. S. Forrest	76	+	3	=	79
Mr. J. Johnstone	85	—	5	=	80
Mr. W. D. Kraft	96	—	15	=	81
Dr. Drew, R.N.	92	—	10	=	82
Mr. W. W. G. Ross	95	—	13	=	82
Mr. T. C. Gray	97	—	14	=	83
Mr. J. Stodard	97	—	12	=	85
Mr. C. A. Parker, R.N.	92	—	6	=	86

34 entries.

The little naval launch *Alexander*, built by Messrs. Fenwick & Co., Hongkong, for the Admiralty, is now on her way to Weihaiwei. Such a small vessel will find deep-water steaming unpleasant.

AQUATICS.

A water polo match between the R.A. and the V.R.C. was played at the V.R.C. pond on the 9th inst. Longman being captain of the Royal Artillery team and R. Witchell captaining Victoria Recreation Club. Mr. T. Meek was referee. The sides, V.R.C. on top, were as follows:—

E. Humphreys, A. S. Alves, J. Alves, R. Witchell, N. H. Alves, J. Witchell, H. Gidley, Longman, Penny, Sewell, Mooney, Rumsey, Fisher, Powell.

At the first throw-in R. Witchell secured the ball after a hard swim for it, passing to N. H. Alves in the right wing; a shot by the latter was stopped by Powell, the R.A. goal. J. Alves then passed to J. Witchell, who shot a remarkably good goal with a back-hand swing. After the throw-in play was again kept on the soldiers' side, R. Witchell shooting No. 2 goal with a long centre shot, off a pass from N. H. Alves. For the third time the club outswam their opponents, the ball again being passed to N. H. Alves in the wing, and Alves, as before, returned it to J. Witchell now advanced to a forward position. Witchell with a back-hander drove it home with great force. A. E. Alves and Longman had a bit of a scrap in the wing, the latter fouling by taking the leather beneath water. Alves had a free throw, but the visitors secured possession. Sewell finished the advance with a goal, the first for the R.A. J. Witchell shot, the ball being well fielded; he pressed again, however, and scored. Fisher was the next to shoot; he sent the ball a little wide. The R.A. goal did good work, stopping shots by N. H. Alves and J. Witchell.

Half-time:—V.R.C., 4; R.A., 1.

Resuming play after a short spell, the Club secured the ball. N. H. Alves passed to A. Alves, who passed to J. Alves; and the latter shot an easy goal. The Club then went in more for passing to each other than adding points; they simply swam around their opponents, dodging prettily and causing considerable amusement. Powell gave the V.R.C. a free throw by sending the ball more than half the distance. The Artillery were not in the least dispirited; on the contrary improved with time, giving Humphreys quite a lot of work. The latter stopped well. Gidley, also, played well. A. Alves passed to R. Witchell, the latter making a foul by using two hands. J. Witchell shot into net, but just about that time Powell caught a cramp and climbed on to the top of his citadel; so the goal was not counted. The sight really was very funny and caused considerable merriment. W. T. Andrews went into goal for the soldiers, Powell making his way into a dinghy. Another R.A. man who had been hanging on to the bars for some time also got out of the water with cramp. To equalise things somewhat J. Witchell retired. The announcement of "time" caused some of the players considerable relief. The Club gave three hearty cheers for the R.A., and the latter, some in the water and others aboard the dinghy, responded.

Result:—V.R.C., 5; R.A., 1.

Eight minutes each way was too much, as some of the men were not in form, but a difference is expected at the next contest.

On Saturday the 5th inst. the Victoria Recreation Club held a Water Carnival at Kowloon, when a large number of ladies were present. The results were:—

TWO LENGTHS HANDICAP.—The first two in each heat to swim in the final.

HEAT I.

Four starters: P. M. Remedios, G. B. Macdonald, C. Humphreys, R. C. Witchell and N. H. Alves.

- (1) R. C. Witchell.
- (2) C. Humphreys.

HEAT II.

Three starters: J. Cronin, E. Humphreys and A. V. Barros.

- (1) E. Humphreys.
- (2) A. V. Barros.

HEAT III.

Six starters: T. C. Swaby, S. M. Gidley, J. M. Roza Pereira, J. A. S. Alves, A. J. V. Rebeiro and J. Witchell.

- (1) J. Witchell.
- (2) S. M. Gidley.

FINAL.

- (1) E. Humphreys.
- (2) R. C. Witchell.

Boys' RACE (two lengths handicap).—Nine. to 14 years of age. Post entries. Sons or brothers of members only. Two prizes.

- (1) Muskett.
- (2) A. Ellis.
- (3) Mancell.

TEAM RACE.—The four teams were published on Saturday. Result:—

- (1) J. Witchell's team.
- (2) A. E. Alves' team.

WATER POLO.

In this game, Blue v. White, the players changed their places frequently, but the teams were as follows:—

Blue.—R. C. Witchell (capt.), N. H. Alves, J. H. R. Hance, F. D. Bain, A. V. Barros, F. K. Tata and F. Pereira.

White.—J. Witchell (capt.), C. E. A. Hance, J. Millar, C. Alves, A. J. V. Ribeiro, A. E. Alves and A. Loureiro.

J. Witchell secured the ball at the first throw-in. After a little even play J. Hance fouled Millar, giving the latter a free throw. C. Hance using both hands gave Bain a free throw. J. Witchell was the first to score. C. Hance then went in goal instead of A. Loureiro (White); and J. Hance went into goal instead of Tata (blue).

Half-time:—White, 1; Blue, 0.

On resuming one of the Whites shot, but J. Hance saved well and was applauded. Millar got a free throw off a foul by Bain. J. Witchell passed to Millar, who shot high. The ball went behind off J. Hance's hand and a corner was given. C. Alves added No. 2 goal for the Whites. Barros getting cramp went into goal instead of J. Hance. From the throw-in R. Witchell secured the ball and sent it behind. J. Witchell followed; he eventually added a third and a fourth goal.

Result:—White, 4; Blue, 0.

At the conclusion of the game Mr. A. Chapman, chairman of the Club, presented the prizes.

HONGKONG.

Dr. Justo Lucban, licentiate in medicine and surgery in the university of Thomas Aquinas in Manila, has been officially recognised as qualified to practice medicine and surgery in the Colony.

Capt. William Armstrong, of the Hongkong Volunteer Corps, has been granted leave of absence until 14th October. Mr. Armstrong is shortly leaving for South Africa on business connected with the emigration of Chinese coolies.

The revenue of the Colony for the first three months of the year amounted to \$1,399,064, showing an increase of \$245,911 compared with that of the corresponding period last year. The actual expenditure amounted to \$1,469,821, showing an increase of \$192,511 compared with the sum expended in the same quarter of last year.

Mr. H. C. Nicolle, who went from here to Colombo a few months ago to arrange a new system of accounts at the Government Treasury, is, the *Ceylon Observer* says, to return to Hongkong in August. This disposes of the story that Mr. Nicolle is to be appointed Treasurer of Ceylon, a story which has excited no little feeling among the Treasury officials and others in Ceylon.

A Chinese carpenter residing at No. 38, Bridges Street, on the 6th inst. was severely stabbed in the face, neck and hand, necessitating his removal to the Government Civil Hospital. It appears the ground floor of the house in question is occupied by Chinese, and the first and second floors by Malays and Filipinos. During the heavy rain, on the evening of the 6th, water—rain water, perhaps—splashed down from the upper storeys on to the Chinese inmates of the ground floor. The Chinese, apparently thinking the Malays and Filipinos were pouring it down, protested, whereupon the others attacked them. About seven arrests have been made.

The total number of admissions to the Government Civil Hospital last year was 2,794, and the number of out-patients 11,911.

Dr. J. H. Swan has been appointed Assistant Health Officer of the Port for duties in connection with the emigration of Chinese to South Africa only.

Mr. P. W. Sergeant, who has been Editor of the *Daily Press* for the past four years, leaves for home to-day by the P. & O. mail steamer *Simla*. During his residence in Hongkong Mr. Sergeant has made many friends who will follow his future career at home with interest. It would perhaps be immodest on our part to dilate on Mr. Sergeant's many excellent qualities, which all who know him have learnt to appreciate. As a parting token of esteem from the staff Mr. Sergeant accepted yesterday a handsomely carved set of ivory chessmen, and Mr. Hale, the manager, in making the presentation, wished him on behalf of the donors a pleasant voyage and a successful career at home. By his departure the local Chess Club loses its champion player and the local branch of the Institute of Journalists suffers the loss of its President.

It appears that a Chinaman at Hongkong has been duped by the confidence trick. Li Tong, of No. 76, Pork Stall, Central Market, was given \$230 by his father to pay a bill with. Li went up to the Police Station in great distress and reported a highway robbery, but on being interrogated it transpired that he had been made a fool of. A man came up to him and got into conversation. After walking together some distance the stranger showed Li a roll of notes, about \$1,000, saying he had found the bundle in the hold of a steamer. He asked Li to change them, offering to give him one note for his trouble; he was afraid himself. He required security, however, while his friend was gone, and Li foolishly gave him the \$230. On opening the bundle of notes, as he thought, Li found a roll of useless paper. The trickster had disappeared. No arrest has yet been made.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Sir Robert Hart's house at Peking was broken into on the 23rd ult. The burglars stole a small box containing over \$50, together with a press copybook containing valuable records. Up to the time of the mail leaving for the South no arrest had been made.

Captain John Farrow died at Shanghai last week. He was known and very much liked over almost all the coast of China, says a Northern contemporary. He was best known in Amoy, where the news of his death will be received with very sincere regret.

Sir Henry Blake, who recently met with an accident which confined him to his bed, is reported in the latest Ceylon papers to hand to be a great deal better and able to move about a little, though reclining on the sofa a large part of the day. His Excellency was staying at Nuwara Eliya, and expected to be able to leave with Lady Blake for another part of the island about June 6th.

Russians have attempted to negotiate for the purchase of a journal at Tientsin called the *Ta K'ung Pao*, but failed. They have now established a Chinese paper in Peking, under Russian control, the expenses of which are to be met by the Russo-Chinese Bank. The type and other necessary materials have arrived in Peking. The city, says a correspondent of the *Shanghai Mercury*, is decidedly Japanese in its views and sympathies, and there is a Japanese newspaper that wields a considerable influence.

Visitors to the St. Louis Exposition will shortly be able to witness a novel succession of cinematographic pictures portraying the execution of over two hundred prisoners at Canton. A short time ago a Hongkong photographer paid a visit to the Viceroy and came to an arrangement with him whereby all executions were to be postponed until a date towards the end of the present month. A cinematograph was meanwhile on its way hither from the States, and is now in the Colony awaiting transshipment on its gruesome errand. It is stated that \$50,000 will be the price forthcoming for the films from an American syndicate. But no doubt there will be "squeezes" to pay at Canton.

During the Japan-China War the output of coal in Japan was greatly decreased on account of a large number of miners being engaged as military coolies, but the present war with Russia has not affected the output in the least degree, says the *Nagasaki Press*. The quantity of coal produced from the mines in the Chikuho district Kyushu, in the month of April was estimated at 500,113 tons, showing an increase of 322 tons and 1,300 tons respectively over the returns for March last and the month of April of last year. The aggregate output of the Chikuho collieries from January to April last was 1,712,022 tons, against 1,522,196 tons for the first four months of 1903.

According to the *Depeche Coloniale*, extensive irrigation works are about to be started in several provinces of the Tonkin delta in French Indo-China. These works include canals and barrages. In the province of Annam, near Phuly, a canal is being made in order to drain this region; the quantity of earth to be removed is estimated at 800,000 cubic metres. By the barrage of several estuaries in the province of Phu-Lien, 50,000 hectares will be rendered suitable for the cultivation of rice. Similar results will be obtained in the lower delta by the construction of dykes on the seashore and of sluices, which will accumulate water during the rainy season, and protect the rice-fields from the sea at high tide.

COMMERCIAL.

SILK.

SHANGHAI, May 30th, 1904.

Messrs. A. R. Burkill & Son give the following resume of the season 1903-4:—The closing season has been an unprofitable one to those engaged in the silk trade, the severest losses falling upon owners of steam filatures, and of new style hand filatures, of which latter there was a considerable stock carried over from the preceding season. The crop proved to be somewhat larger than that of 1902-1903, but it must be remembered that the crop of 1902-1903, was nearly 30 per cent. below the average of the six crops preceding it. Dealing in the season's silk under review commenced in February, 1902, the principal operations being confined to steam filatures; more especially in fine sizes. Record tael prices were established, Tls. 1,140 being paid for 1st choice, 9-11 deniers, and these high-priced contracts could have but one effect, namely, to render the price of cocoons extremely exorbitant. We think we are well within the mark in asserting the average cost of production of steam filatures for the season to have been Tls. 1,000 per picul, for, not only were prices extravagant, but the rendement of the cocoons varied to an almost unprecedented extent, the quality generally proving very unsatisfactory. The Tsatlee market was opened in the latter end of May, on the basis of Tls. 642½ for Gold Kiling, but operations were by no means general. A few sales, were subsequently made at Tls. 675, but the markets agged and was down to Tls. 615 in August. From then on until the middle of November, the requirements of "Bear" sellers supported the market and a slight rise took place, and it was not until January that a serious decline in prices occurred, Tls. 490 being accepted. Since then an advance in prices has been established, in sympathy with the decline in exchange.

Hand Filature.—American buyers opened the market in May by purchases of crack chops at Tls. 840, and these prices were maintained until January, when Tls. 140 per picul lower was accepted. For Europe only a small business was done until March, when considerable quantities were placed.

Yellow Silk.—The export shows practically no change, and high prices have been paid. Mien-yangs advanced about Tls. 70 per picul between August and November, and were in strong demand right throughout the season. Mienohews, Sezchuens and Kopuns all shared in the advance, the latter however to a much smaller extent.

Wild Silk.—The export figures again show an increase, and the demand for Tussah Filatures continues to grow.

New Crop.—Contrary to all reports and rumours the crop in its early stages proceeded well, and expectations of a good crop were fully justified, and an increase of 25 per cent. on the crop of 1903-4 was confidently expected. On May 21st, 22nd and 23rd, however, the weather was extremely adverse, thunder, heavy rains and cold weather doing great damage, and at present reliable information states that the crop will be about the same as the last, but that the color may not be very good.

The following table gives approximately the value on the Home markets during the season:—

Exchange at 4 m./s.	Paria.		London.		New York, 13/15		Lyons, 9/11		Gold Kiling.	
	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.
June	2.93	3.06	2.44	54	4.80	53	12	0	12	0
July	3.16	3.26	2.64	73½	4.80	54	11	9	11	9
August	3.31	3.41	2.74	84	4.85	56	12	3	12	3
September	3.21	3.31	2.64	74	5.20	56	13	0	13	0
October	3.07	3.17	2.54	64	5.20	56	12	0	12	0
November	3.32	3.42	2.74	84	4.90	54	12	7½	12	7½
December	3.45	3.55	2.84	94	4.75	52	12	0	12	0
January	3.36	3.46	2.74	84	4.55	51	11	7½	11	7½
February	3.15	3.25	2.64	74	4.50	48	11	3	11	3
March	3.19	3.29	2.64	74	4.50	48	11	9	11	9
April					4.40	46	11	3	11	3
May					4.25	45	90½		90½	

Spinning Cocoons.—The season opened without any stock of old cocoons, and most of the Filatures had closed waiting for the new ones. The market opened at exorbitant prices, the reasons being, firstly,—large forward contracts made in February on the basis of Tls. 1,120 and over, for best chops, No. 1, 9-11 deniers; secondly,—the bad weather prevailing during the rearing of the worms; and, lastly, a short supply of mulberry leaves in Chekiang and Kiangsu provinces. The quality of the cocoons was consequently very poor, being mostly too thin, and the yield of Showshing cocoons averaged about 5 to 1, and that of Woozie cocoons 5½ to 6 to 1. The average cost of Showshing cocoons landed at the filatures was Tls. 190-200 per picul dry, and of Woozies Tls. 170. Throughout the season complaints have been general about the winding of the silk, which has been very bad, and this no doubt is due to the imperfect feeding of the worms. The average production of each basin has been 15 per cent. less than usual, and the production of Filature Long Waste or Frisons 7 to 8 per cent. more. An unprecedented feature of the close of the season is the stock of spinning cocoons held here and in the country, estimates being as high as 4,000 piculs.

Waste Silk.—The beginning of the season was marked by an unusual delay in buyers and sellers coming together, and the market for the great bulk of the new wastes was not properly opened until close on the end of July, although in June one or two speculative forward sales of new curlies, No. 1, were made by native dealers here at from 96 to 98 Taels per picul, ex. 4 m-s, 2/4, and Fcs. 2.97. At the end of July the market for the lower wastes was opened on the basis of Tls. 39, ex. 4 m-s, 2/5 9-16, and Fcs. 3.09, but no considerable business was done, and by the beginning of August the market had again fallen very flat, exchange rising and putting a stop to business. About the middle of August a good demand sprang up for all classes of waste, and curlies No. 1 were taken in quantity at Tls. 101-102, and Szechuen Frisonets 70.20.10, at Tls. 39, exchange however having risen to 2/6½, and Fcs. 3.17, 4 m-s. The rise in exchange continuing business was again brought to a standstill, the market however keeping very steady, with tael prices unchanged, until the latter half of September, when a large business was done in all available wastes on the basis of Tls. 104-5 for curlies No. 1, Tls. 98 for Woozie pierced cocoons, 68-69 per cent. silk, and Tls. 38½-39½ for Szechuen Frisonets 70.20.10, ex at 2/7½, and Fcs. 3.26, 4 m-s. At the beginning of October

the market, though strong, had perforce become quiet from want of supplies, in which condition it has practically remained ever since, at any rate as far as the lower wastes are concerned. For Gum Wastes the demand was exceedingly good throughout the first half of the season, competition for them for continental use being a special feature, resulting in very high prices being paid. Fine White Gum 75 per cent. No. 1, 25 per cent. No. 2 being sold at Tls. 170 per picul in August, ex at 2/6 and Fcs. 3.15, 4 m-s. In December rates eased off, resulting in all available supplies being pretty well cleared out as fast as they appeared, and the season closes with no stocks here and very small supplies coming forward. The quality of curlies was not good, and the color of white gum wastes, flosses, and in fact all the wastes coming from white cocoons was poor. Frisonets, etc., and all the yellow cocoon wastes, on the other hand, were quite up to average. For tussah wastes there was a strong demand in October, continental buyers taking considerable quantities at Tls. 29-30 for 60.40, ex at 2/8 and Fcs. 3.34, 4 m-s. This demand being satisfied holders maintained their tael prices, on the strength of the war between Russia and Japan making it probable that the usual supplies from Newchwang would not be forthcoming, and some further business resulted in their asking Tls. 32 or more for 60.40. They have since however weakened considerably. In spite of the pooriness of the crop of silk, the total export of waste silk from Shanghai has been the largest on record, the fact being that the crop of silk in the white silk districts, from which the Shanghai filatures draw their supplies of cocoons, and from which the white silk exported from Shanghai comes, only affects a comparatively small portion of the waste silk supplies and we may have a poor crop of Silk here and short supplies of curlies, etc., and yet have the deficiency more than made up by wastes from Szechuen and the interior of China, from whence we hear scarcely anything about the crop of silk there. Of this large export England has taken almost just the same as the previous season, and the Continent has taken almost the whole of the increase. It is noticeable however that Japan, which had previously taken scarcely anything, has this season taken nearly 1,000 pls. of waste Silk from Shanghai. No speculation in the new crop has so far taken place, and dealers are talking of the same tael prices as at the opening of the season under review. The home markets are however very depressed, and buyers' ideas are in consequence so very different from those of sellers, that it appears likely we shall again see a prolonged delay in the opening of the market. The prospects of the crop of Silk are spoken of under that heading, but for the reasons given above, and after this season's experience, we do not think they are of much importance to waste silk, except as affecting the quality and quantity of curlies, flosses, and a few other wastes.

RICE.

Hongkong, 10th June.—The position of the market is the same as when last reported.

Saigon, Ordinary	\$2.65 to \$3.70
" Round, good quality	3.85 to 3.90
" Long	3.95 to 4.00
Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2	2.65 to 2.70
" Garden, " No. 1	3.20 to 3.25
" White,	4.05 to 4.10
" Fine Cargo	4.30 to 4.35

SUGAR.

Hongkong, 10th June.—Some demands having come forward the prices are advancing.

Shekloong, No. 1, White	\$3.56 to \$3.70 per picul.
Do. " 2, White	6.70 to 6.75 "
Do. " 1, Brown	6.05 to 6.10 "
Do. " 2, Brown	5.90 to 5.95 "
Swatow, No. 1, White	8.50 to 5.55 "
Do. " 2, White	7.55 to 7.60 "
Do. " 1, Brown	5.90 to 5.95 "
Do. " 2, Brown	5.70 to 5.75 "
Foochow Sugar Candy	12.80 to 12.85 "
Shekloong "	10.90 to 10.95 "

OPIUM.

11th June.

Quotations are:—Allowance net to 1 catty.	
Malwa New	\$1040 to \$1080 per picul
Malwa Old	\$1100 to \$1140 do.
Malwa Older	\$1200 to 1240 do.
Malwa V. Old	\$1260 to 1280 do.
Persian fine quality	\$880 to — do.
Persian extra fine	\$900 to — do.
Patna New	\$1195 to — per chest.
Patna Old	\$1220 to — do.
Benares New	\$1182½ to — do.
Benares Old	\$1175 to — do.

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 3rd June.—The prices ruling are as follows:—

COTTON YARN—

Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20, ...	\$ 90.00 to \$128.00
English—Nos. 16 to 24, ...	114.00 to 120.00
" 22 to 24, ...	120.00 to 128.00
" 28 to 32, ...	136.00 to 142.00
" 38 to 42, ...	155.00 to 170.00

Reported sales 100 bales.

COTTON PIECE GOODS—

	per piece
Grey Shirtings—6 lbs.	2.25 to 2.50
" 7 lbs.	2.55 to 2.75
" 8.4 lbs.	3.20 to 4.30
" 9 to 10 lbs.	4.40 to 5.90

COTTON PIECE GOODS—

	per piece
White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd.	2.90 to 3.20
" 58 to 60 "	3.40 to 4.00
" 64 to 66 "	4.25 to 6.00
" Fine	6.50 to 8.57
" Book-folds	6.00 to 8.50
Victoria Lawns—12 yards	0.80 to 1.25
T-Cloths—6lbs. (32 in.), Ord'y.	2.30 to 2.75
" 7lbs. (32 "), "	3.00 to 3.30
" 6lbs. (32 "), Mexs.	2.50 to 3.00
" 7lbs. (32 "), "	3.25 to 3.50
" 8 to 8.4 oz., (36 in.)	3.50 to 4.55
Drills, English—40 yds., 13½ " to 14 lbs.	5.50 to 8.25

FANCY COTTONS—

Turkey Red Shirtings—1½ to 8 lbs.	2.00 to 4.50
Brocades—Dyed	0.14 to 0.15

Shanghai 2nd June.

Messrs. Noel, Murray & Co., in their report on the Shanghai Piece Goods, say:—Business here is commencing to drag again. Clearances are not so good and, therefore, there is not that desire to replace. An important settling up is ahead—the fifth moon, which falls on the 18th inst., and is said to be already making its influence felt. Certainly everything seems to be much quieter and importers generally are getting a little despondent. The Manchester market opened after the holidays with an easier tendency in sympathy with Cotton, but the good demand for India does not allow a decline in the same ratio, in fact it seems to have been already discounted. The latest quotation for Mid American in Liverpool was 6.90d. and for Egyptian 7½d. According to the fortnightly telegrams the shipments for the month must show a big falling off. The New York market is quiet and easier. Just at the last moment we hear a small business has been successfully negotiated in Drills, but Sheetings are still a dead letter. The market for imported Yarns is exceedingly quiet and the attempt to persuade holders to reduce prices has resulted in the almost entire stoppage of business. This market is actually so much under Bombay, and has been for some weeks now, a substantial advance is necessary to bring recent purchases out without very serious loss. The Japanese Spinings are a shade easier, but local Yarn is firmer.

REPORT ON THE TRADE OF COREA, 1903.

This has just been published; it opens thus:—“There can be no doubt that the trade of Korea is a plant of lusty growth which, with a little help, may be relied on to thrive and develop. Every year adds its own catalogue of unforeseen discouragements to those which have been anticipated and allowed for as part of the fixed conditions of trade in Korea; yet trade continues to flourish, and in spite of temporary checks to increase in a remarkable manner. There is unfortunately no evidence of any increase in the production of the Korean staples—Rice, Beans and Grain—which from the chief basis of this healthy trade, and for which Japan, with its growing population, offers a practically unlimited market close at hand. Now the country is under Japanese tutelage this will no doubt be speedily rectified and the farmers given the encouragement that so far has been lacking. Currency troubles there have caused the same hinderance to trade as in China, and naturally the shadow of the coming war fell upon the commercial world and deepened as the year drew to a close. The gross total of the trade shows a satisfactory increase and established a record; but there is a disparity between Imports and Exports which has risen to over three and a quarter million yen, but a great proportion of that was due to the railway materials imported with the capital of the Japanese Company building the Seoul-Fusan Railway; the money paid for wages and supplies in connection therewith being a valuable addition to the income of the country. As regards the trade in Foreign Cotton Goods, while showing little if any progressive tendency, it is fully maintained. The importations of American Cotton are as yet tri-

pling, and all the descriptions of Cottons imported may for practical purposes be classed as either Japanese or British. These two divisions continue to be nearly equal in value, with a slight advantage in favour of the British, a relative position which would scarcely have been predicted at the end of 1900. In that year the leading Japanese Cottons, namely Sheetings, Imitation Korea Cloth, and Yarn, which in 1894 had totalled only yen 249,654, reached their culminating point with a total of yen 2,944,000, coincidentally with a marked decline in the importations of British Cotton. Since 1900, however, there has been a large falling off in the importations of Japanese Yarn and “Native” cloth, which has not been made up for by the increase in Sheetings, while British Cottons have fully recovered their position.”

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per N.D.L. steamer *Bayern*, sailed on 25th May For Colombo:—80 rolls mats. For Suez:—2 cases blackwood ware. For Genoa:—118 bales raw silk. For Antwerp:—125 bales split bamboo, 50 bales feathers. For Antwerp, Bremen and Hamburg:—200 bales bamboo. For Antwerp or Hamburg:—28 rolls matting. For Amsterdam:—2 cases cigars. For Rotterdam:—67 bales canes. For Bremen:—46 rolls matting, 30 cases effects. For Hamburg:—100 bales canes, 27 rolls mats, 5 cases feathers. For London:—750 rolls matting.

Per steamer *Alcinous*, sailed on 26th May. For Suez:—5 packages firecrackers. For Constantinople:—79 packages matting. For Havre or Hamburg or London:—62 cases bristles. For Antwerp:—236 bales feathers, 25 bales tobacco, 75 cases bristles. For London or Antwerp:—217 bales canes, 50 cases bristles. For London or Glasgow:—250 cases preserves, 302 casks preserves. For London or Manchester:—50 bales waste silk. For Manchester:—5 bales waste silk. For Glasgow:—5 packages effects. For London:—1073 packages firecrackers, 301 rolls mats, 89 bales canes, 300 bales feathers, 346 casks soy, 250 casks ginger, 16 cases hair, 80 cases chinaware, &c., 405 boxes tea, 500 bales hemp, 36 cases shells, 17 cases personal effects, 8 packages horns, 30 cases essential oil. For various ports:—40 packages sundries.

Per P. & O. steamer *Simla*, sailed on 4th June. For London:—294 half-chests tea, 100 boxes tea, 45 bales raw silk, 170 rolls matting, 1 case silks, 2 cases birdfeathers, 100 bales waste silk 5 cases hair, 5 empty flasks, 2 cases sundries, 38 packages personal effects. For Milan:—60 bales raw silk. For Manchester:—225 bales waste silk. For Lyons:—154 bales raw silk. For St. Chamond:—10 bales raw silk. For Marseilles:—68 bales raw silk, 1 case feathers (optional), 5 bales hair.

Per steamer *Oldenburg*, sailed on 4th June. For Singapore:—70 rolls matting. For Colombo:—20 cases preserves. For Aden:—40 cases cassia. For Odessa:—55 bales canes. For Alexandria:—5 cases glass bangles. For Naples:—250 cases cassia, 16 cases curios. For Genoa:—600 cases cassia, 31 bales raw silk. For Venice:—50 cases cassia. For Antwerp:—265 bales bamboo scraps, 42 rolls matting, 25 cases chinaware, 14 cases sundries 5 cases human hair. For Antwerp or Hamburg:—130 cases bristles. For Antwerp or Hamburg or London:—10 cases bristles. For Amsterdam:—111 rolls matting, 25 cases ginger. For Bremen:—453 rolls matting, 2 cases effects. For Bremen or Hamburg:—121 bales feathers, 12 cases chinaware. For Hamburg:—57 cases chinaware, 33 boxes blackwoodware, 11 bales canes, 9 cases feathers, 8 cases sundries, 3 rolls matting, 1 box bristles. For Copenhagen:—137 bales feathers, 80 rolls matting, 2 cases blackwoodware, 1 case silk.

Per steamer *Deucalion*, sailed on 7th June. For Manchester:—200 bales waste silk. For London or Manchester:—100 bales waste silk. For Antwerp:—20 bales canes, 450 cases cassia, 50 bales feathers. For Odessa:—50 bales canes. For London or Glasgow:—150 cases preserves. For London or Hamburg or Antwerp:—252 bags ore. For London or Hamburg or Bremen or New York:—400 half-chests tea. For London:—158 packages tea, 400 boxes tea, 53 boxes curios, effects, &c., 40 cases preserves, 100 cases bristles, 14 cases cigars, 73 cases chinaware, 50 cases aniseed, 140 cases fans, 70 cases essential oil, 200 casks soys, 350 casks ginger, 499 bales canes, 250 bales chinaroot, 350 bales feathers, 1,080 bales hemp, 690 rolls matting.

Per P. & O. steamer *Pera*, sailed on 8th June. For London:—54 bales feathers, 2 cases cigars, 1 case coffee, 14 cases woodware, 24 chinaware, 10 cases copperware, 3 packages sundries, 3 cases cigars.

SHARE REPORTS.

HONGKONG, 10th June, 1904.—Activity has been replaced by comparative apathy, and we have to report a dull market for the latter part of the week under review. Rates however with a few exceptions have been fairly well maintained, and it is reasonable to conclude that the temporary slackness is but a lull after the exceptional activity of the last two months.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai:—The London rate has risen to £66 10s. Locally shares are obtainable at \$667½ and a slightly lower rate would probably be accepted. Nationals continue steady at \$38, with small sales and close with further buyers.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions have been placed at the reduced rate of \$540, but close at the last moment with further small buyers at that rate. China Traders have found buyers at \$61, closing steady. North Chinas, after local sales at Tls. 62½, are in a small demand. Yangtszes remain unchanged and without business. Cantons have been placed at \$212 and \$211½.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkong Fires continue to be enquired for in a small way at \$310, and Chinas after sales at \$86½ close steady at \$87.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton, and Macao remain neglected at \$30 with little or no business to report. Indo-Chinas during the week have returned to the erratic stage and it is difficult to give a reliable cash quotation and \$118 sellers must be taken as more or less nominal. On time a few transactions have been put through at rates proportionately lower than the supposed cash rates, but shares are not offering very freely and buyers appear somewhat inclined to take advantage of the lower rates. China and Manilas remain unchanged and without business. Douglasses have changed hands at \$36. Star Ferries have ruled steady at \$32 for old and \$23 for new with small sales of the former only. Shell Transports continue quiet with sellers at 25s. and no sales.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars during the week have been placed at \$165 and \$166 for cash, at \$170 for August and \$171½ for September, while rather a large parcel is reported to have been done at an exceptional rate for the former month. The market closes steady at \$165. Nothing to report in Luzons.

MINING.—Preference Panjoms have changed hands at 25 cents and are now enquired for at 40 cents. We have no further business to report under this heading.

DOCKS, WHARVES, AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have ruled quieter on account of a few settlement shares being put on the market. Sales in the early part of the week were effected at \$215, and \$215½ even was reported; later however the best rates obtainable were \$215 and \$214 for cash and delivery 30th inst. at which a few shares changed hands. Kowloon wharves continue on the downward path with sellers at \$109 with no more apparent reason for the decline than there was for the recent rapid rise. Market manipulations appear to be the cause of the present comparative weakness. Farnhams in the early part of the week were quoted from Shanghai at the reduced rate of Tls. 150, but the market has since recovered to Tls. 155, but with sellers.

LANDS, HOTELS, AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have ruled neglected, with little or no business at \$157½ at which the market closes with sellers. Kowloon Lands continue in demand at \$36½ without bringing any shares on the market. Humphrey's Estates have been placed at \$12½ and small rates are reported at slightly under that rate. West Points and Hongkong Hotels remain unchanged and without business, but the latter close with a weak tendency. Shanghai Lands have advanced in Shanghai to Tls. 110.

COTTON MILLS.—Nothing to report under this heading.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Islands were in strong demand in the early part of the week, and sales were effected as high as \$30 for cash, a fair forward business at various rates was put through. Later however the market weakened considerably, and at the close sales have been made at \$29, and more shares could probably be obtained at that, or at a slight advance. China Borneos are obtainable at \$9.75. Watsons at \$13½ and old Electrics at \$14, while Gas shares, Steam Waterboats, and China Light and Power Co.s are enquired for at quotations.

MEMO.—A. S. Watson & Co., Ltd., extraordinary general meeting on the 15th June.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		
Hongkong & S'hai...	\$125	{ \$667½, sellers L'don, £66 10s.
Natl. Bank of China		
A. Shares	£8	\$38, sales & buyers
B. Shares	£8	\$38, sales & buyers
Foun. Shares...	£1	\$10, buyers
Insurance—		
Union	\$100	\$540, sellers
China Traders	\$25	\$61
North China	£5	Tls. 62½, sales
Yangtze	\$60	\$130
Canton	\$50	\$212, sales
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$310, buyers
China Fire	\$20	\$87, buyers
Steamship Coys.—		
H., Canton and M...	\$15	\$30, buyers
Indo-China S. N. ...	£10	\$118, sellers
China and Manila...	\$50	\$26, sellers
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$36, sellers
Star Ferry	\$10	\$32, sellers
"	\$5	\$23, sellers
Shell Transport and } Trading Co. }	£1	25/-, sellers
Do. pref. shares.....	£10	£8. 10s.
Refineries—		
China Sugar	\$100	\$165
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$9, sellers
Mining—		
Punjom	\$11	nominal
Do. Preference...	\$1	40 cts., buyers
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	\$490
Raub's	18/10d.	\$7, sellers
Docks, Etc.—		
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$214, sellers
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$109, sellers
New Amoy Dock ...	\$6½	\$30
S. C. F. Boyd & Co...	Tls. 100	Tls. 155, sellers
Land and Building—		
Hongkong Land Inv.	\$100	\$157½, sellers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$36½, buyers
West Point Building	\$50	\$58, buyers
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$137, sellers
"	\$10	\$12½, sales
Humphreys Estate. }	\$2½	\$4½, buyers
S'hai Land Ins. Co., Ltd.	Tls. 50	Tls. 110
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 50	Tls. 30, sellers
International	Tls. 75	Tls. 25
Laou Kung Mow ...	Tls. 100	Tls. 32½
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 160, sellers
Hongkong	\$10	\$14½, sellers
Green Island Cement	\$10	\$29
China-Borneo Co., Ltd.	\$12	\$9.75, sellers
Watson & Co., A. S...	\$10	\$13.50, sellers
Hongkong Electric }	\$10	\$14, sellers
"	\$5	\$7½, buyers
Hongkong & C. Gas...	£10	\$160, buyers
Hongkong Rope	\$50	{ \$140, sellers
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$48
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$225
H. H. L. Tramways...	\$100	\$280
Hk. Steam Water- }	\$10	\$16½, buyers
Boat Co., Ltd. }		
Dairy Farm	\$6	\$14½, buyers
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$37, sellers
Bell's Asbestos E. A...	12/6	\$5, sellers
United Asbestos	\$4	\$10½, buyers
Do	\$10	\$210, buyers
Tebrau Planting Co...	\$5	\$1, sellers
China Prov. L. & M.	\$10	\$9½, sellers
Watkins Ltd	\$10	\$7½, buyers
China Light & Power }	\$10	\$6, buyers
Co., Ltd. }		
Powell, Ltd	\$10	\$10½, sellers
Shanghai and Hong- }		
kong Dyeing and }	\$50	\$50
Cleaning Co., Ltd. }		
Canton, Hongkong Ice }	\$10	\$10, nominal
Cigar Companies— }		
Alhambra Limited.	\$500	\$200
Philippine Tobacco }	\$10	\$9½, sellers
Trust Co., Ltd. }		

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.

Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co., in their Share Report for the week ending 2nd June, 1904, state:—The principal feature in our market during the past week has been the continued rise in Indos. The general impression was that we had seen the top of the market at the opening of the week when the quotation was Tls. 84, but Hongkong continuing to buy has raised the price to \$123 buyers in Hongkong equalling with the current rate of exchange for 3/d.s. draft on Hongkong at 71½—Tls. 88.40. This market is now very short of shares and we fear forward sellers will have to appeal to Hongkong for shares to cover. The T. T. rate on London to-day is 2/5½. Banks.—H. & S. Banks are quoted in the South at \$665. The latest London quotation is £85. 11s. There is no business reported in stocks under this heading locally. Marine and Fire Insurance.—No business reported. Shipping.—Indo-Chinas opened on the 26th with sales for cash at Tls. 84 and September at 86. 27th, cash shares were placed at 84, 85½ and sales for July at 85, 86½; August 87 and September 86 and 87. 28th, at 86 and 85½ cash, with sales to Hongkong at 119 cash. Tls. 86½ July and 87½ September. 30th, July shares were placed at 87. 31st, no business was reported. 1st instant, cash shares were placed at 85½ and 86½ with sales for July at 87½ and 87. The market closes with a continued demand from Hongkong for cash shares, the market rate there being \$123—as above to Tls. 88.40. Tugs Ord. shares have been placed at Tls. 47 and are offering. Docks and Wharves.—S. C. Farnham Boyd. We have to report a strengthening in this market. The market opened at the beginning of the week with cash sales at Tls. 149 and 150. 1st inst. at Tls. 151 and 152 for cash was paid. To-day cash shares are wanted at Tls. 152½. Forward transactions have taken place for July at 152, 152½, 153½, 153 and 154, 155 and 156, and for August at 153½, Sept. at 154, 154½ 155, 155½, 156. At closing cash shares are wanted at 152½ and for Sept. delivery at 158/159. Shanghai & Hongkew Wharves. Business has been done in these at Tls. 147½ and 148½, 145 for cash, and for Sept. delivery at 152½ and 150. There are sellers for Sept. at the above rate, and shares are wanted for cash at 145. Sugars.—No business reported. Mining.—The only business reported is a transaction in Chinese Engineering and Mng. shares for bearer scrip at Tls. 7. Lands.—Shanghai Lands have changed hands at Tls. 139. Humphreys. There are local sellers at \$12½. Industrial.—Cotton stocks continue neglected and quotations nominal. Gas shares have been placed at Tls. 112½. Shanghai Ices, a small lot at Tls. 24, and Shanghai Paper & Pulp at Tls. 125 June. Langkats. The market has been easy during the week and transactions have been quoted for cash at Tls. 307½ and 310; 312½ June del., 315 July and 322½ September. The market closes quiet with sellers for cash at 310, buyers at 305. Sumatras. No business reported. Shanghai Waterworks are wanted at Tls. 385. Stores and Hotels.—Astors have been placed at \$35 for cash and \$36 July. Hall & Holtz at \$28. Miscellaneous.—Telephones have been placed at Tls. 67. Shanghai Mercuries at Tls. 54, Shanghai Electrics at Tls. 25½ and 25. Loans.—No transactions in debentures are quoted. There are sellers at current rates for all these.

EXCHANGE.

MONDAY, 13th June.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	1/9½
Bank Bills, on demand	1/9½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	1/9½
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	1/10
Credits, at 4 months' sight	1/10½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	1/10½
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	228½
Credits 4 months' sight	232
ON GERMANY.—	
On demand	185½
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	44½
Credits, 60 days' sight	45
ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	135½
Bank, on demand	136
ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	135½
Bank, on demand	136
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, at sight	71½
Private, 30 days' sight	72½
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand	80½
ON MANILA.—	
On demand	Nom.
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand	Nom.
ON BATAVIA.—	
On demand	108½
ON HAIPHONG.—	
On demand	2½ p.m.
ON SAIGON.—	
On demand	2 p.m.
ON BANGKOK.—	
On demand	63
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate	\$10 90
GOLD LEAF, 180 fine, per tael	\$57.30
BAR SILVER, per oz.	25½

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

June—	
ARRIVALS.	
3, Atholl, British str., from Salina Cruz.	
3, Andree Rickmers, Ger. str., from Bangkok.	
3, Capri, Italian str., from Bombay.	
3, Kwanglee, Chinese str., from Shanghai.	
3, Monmouthshire, British str., from Japan.	
3, Prinsesse Marie, Dan. str., from Singapore.	
3, Whampoa, British str., from Canton.	
4, Chiyuen, Chinese str., from Canton.	
4, Chowfa, British str., from Bangkok.	
4, Fooshing, British str., from Swatow.	
4, Foyle, British str., from Kutchinotsu.	
4, Heathburn, British str., from Moji.	
4, Lyeemoon, German str., from Shanghai.	
4, Nanyang, German str., from Canton.	
4, Ocean, British battleship, from Woodsung.	
4, Rein, Norwegian str., from Bangkok.	
4, Sungkiang, British str., from Manila.	
4, Triumph, German str., from Coast Ports.	
5, Abergeldie, British str., from Cardiff.	
5, Changchow, British str., from Chefoo.	
5, Deucalion, British str., from Shanghai.	
5, Haitan, British str., from Coast Ports.	
5, Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong.	
5, Hue, French str., from Haiphong.	
5, Karin, Norwegian str., from Canton.	
5, Mathilde, German str., from Hoikow.	
5, Pitsanulok, German str., from Bangkok.	
6, Afghanistan, British str., from Cardiff.	
6, Changsha, British str., from Yokohama.	
6, Dagmar, Norwegian str., from Tourane.	
6, Glenfarg, British str., from London.	
6, Johanne, German str., from Haiphong.	
6, Laisang, British str., from Calcutta.	
6, Phuyen, French str., from Hongay.	
6, Rubi, British str., from Manila.	
6, Tientain, British str., from Karatsu.	
6, Tjilatjap, Dutch str., from Amoy.	
6, Wosang, British str., from Swatow.	
7, Alesia, German str., from Hamburg.	
7, Australian, British str., from Melbourne.	
7, Indrasamha, British str., from Kobe.	
7, Kwangtah, Chinese str., from Shanghai.	
7, Pera, British str., from Yokohama.	
7, Seydlitz, German str., from Hamburg.	
7, Taiwan, British str., from Shanghai.	
7, Taksang, British str., from Bangkok.	
7, Wilmington, U.S. gunboat, from Swatow.	
7, Yuensang, British str., from Manila.	
8, Apenrade, German str., from Pakhoi.	
8, Choysang, British str., from Shanghai.	
8, Fooshing, British str., from Canton.	
8, Hailan, French str., from Pakhoi.	
8, Kwanglee, Chinese str., from Canton.	
8, Kweiyang, British str., from Canton.	
8, Lyeemoon, German str., from Canton.	
8, M. Struve, German str., from Tamsui.	
8, Opland, Norwegian str., from Canton.	
8, Oscar II., Norwegian str., from Moji.	
8, Pronto, German str., from Amoy.	
8, Sachsen, German str., from Shanghai.	
8, Satsuma, British str., from Amoy.	
8, Shaohsing, British str., from Saigon.	
8, Siam, British str., from Shanghai.	
8, Stentor, British str., from Liverpool.	
8, Taichow, German str., from Bangkok.	
8, Woosung, British str., from Shanghai.	
9, America Maru, Jap. str., from S. Fisco.	
9, Elae, German str., from Tourane.	
9, Fausang, British str., from Saigon.	
9, Glenogle, British str., from Rangoon.	
9, Heathford, British str., from Moji.	
9, Madel Rickmers, Ger. str., from Bangkok.	
9, Palatinia, British str., from Barry.	
9, Taishan, British str., from Bangkok.	
9, Tjipanas, Dutch str., from Java.	
10, Benrty, British str., from London.	
10, Chateau Renault, French str., from Saigon.	
10, Dagmar, Norwegian str., from Canton.	
10, Haiching, British str., from Coast Ports.	
10, Lord Dufferin, British str., from Cardiff.	
10, Ningchow, British str., from Pacific coast.	
10, Pronto, Norwegian str., from Chefoo.	
10, Parnea, British str., from Straits.	
10, Restorer, British cable str., from S'pore.	
10, Sardinia, British str., from London.	
10, Shahsada, British str., from Singapore.	
10, Yatsing, British str., from Hongay.	
11, Charterhouse, British str., from S'pore.	
11, China, German str., from Saigon.	
11, Chingtu, British str., from Sydney.	
11, Dagmar, German str., from Swatow.	
11, Decima, German str., from Chefoo.	

- 11, J. Diederichsen, Ger. str., from Haiphong.
- 11, Johanna, British ship, from New York.
- 11, Kowloon, German str., from Chinkiang.
- 11, Main, German transport, from Bremen.
- 11, Mongolia, Amr. str., from S. Francisco.
- 11, Taming, British str., from Manila.
- 11, Tritos, German str., from Swatow.
- 12, Chinkiang, British str., from Chefoo.
- 12, Kintuck, British str., from Liverpool.
- 12, Mathilde, German str., from Swatow.
- 12, Pascal, French cruiser, from Hoihow.
- 12, Shaohsing, British str., from Canton.
- 12, Taiwan, British str., from Canton.
- 12, Tsintau, German str., from Bangkok.

May— DEPARTURES.

- 3, Ballarat, British str., for Shanghai.
- 3, Border Knight, British str., for Nagasaki.
- 3, Cheangohaw, British str., for Amoy.
- 3, Diomed, British str., for Shanghai.
- 3, Flintshire, British str., for Shanghai.
- 3, Helene Rickmers, Ger. str., for Y'hama.
- 3, Ikbal, British str., for Shantung.
- 3, Kaifong, British str., for Cebu.
- 3, Loongsang, British str., for Manila.
- 3, Ras Issa, French str., for Singapore.
- 3, Taming, British str., for Manila.
- 3, Tuckwo, British str., for Shanghai.
- 4, Anghin, German str., for Bangkok.
- 4, Gaelic, British str., for San Francisco.
- 4, Giang Bea, British str., for Amoy.
- 4, Glenfalloch, British str., for Swatow.
- 4, Goodwin, British str., for Calcutta.
- 4, Hinsang, British str., for Singapore.
- 4, Kohsichang, German str., for Bangkok.
- 4, Oldenburg, German str., for Europe.
- 4, Rajaburi, German str., for Bangkok.
- 4, Simla, British str., for Europe.
- 4, Whampoa, British str., for Shanghai.
- 4, Zafiro, British str., for Manila.
- 5, Alexander, British str., for Weihaiwei.
- 5, Eastern, British str., for Australia.
- 5, Fooshing, British str., for Canton.
- 5, Frithjof, Norwegian str., for Tamsui.
- 5, Monmouthshire, British str., for London.
- 5, Prinsesse Marie, Dan. str., for Shanghai.
- 5, Thales, British str., for Coast Ports.
- 6, Bianca, German str., for Nicolaes.
- 6, Changchow, British str., for Canton.
- 6, Chihli, British str., for Tientsin.
- 6, Chiyuen, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
- 6, Dagmar, Norwegian str., for Canton.
- 6, Machew, German str., for Bangkok.
- 6, Nanyang, German str., for Chefoo.
- 6, Wuchang, British str., for Shanghai.
- 7, Abergeldie, British str., for Nagasaki.
- 7, Deucalion, British str., for London.
- 7, Foyle, British str., for Kutchinotzu.
- 7, Haitan, British str., for Coast Ports.
- 7, Karin, Swedish str., for Chefoo.
- 7, Macquarie, British str., for Kobe.
- 7, Simoom, British str., for Calcutta.
- 7, Taiwan, British str., for Canton.
- 8, Afghanistan, British str., for Japan.
- 8, Changsha, British str., for Australia.
- 8, Hue, French str., for Haiphong.
- 8, Johanne, German str., for Swatow.
- 8, Kwangtah, Chinese str., for Canton.
- 8, Nithsdale, British str., for Moji.
- 8, Pera, British str., for London.
- 8, Satsuma, British str., for New York.
- 8, Seydlitz, German str., for Shanghai.
- 8, Shansi, British str., for Shanghai.
- 8, Tean, British str., for Manila.
- 8, Terrier, Norwegian str., for Bangkok.
- 8, Triumph, German str., for Coast Ports.
- 8, Woosung, British str., for Canton.
- 9, Amara, British str., for Hongay.
- 9, Atholl, British str., for Moji.
- 9, Borneo, German str., for Sandakan.
- 9, Chowfa, German str., for Bangkok.
- 9, Choysang, British str., for Canton.
- 9, Emma Luyken, Ger. str., for K'ohauwan.
- 9, Fooshing, British str., for Ningpo.
- 9, Glenfarg, British str., for Shanghai.
- 9, Gregory Apar, British str., for Calcutta.
- 9, Hanoi, French str., for Haiphong.
- 9, Kweiyang, British str., for Ningpo.
- 9, Mathilde, German str., for Swatow.
- 9, Opland, Norwegian str., for Kobe.
- 9, Rein, Norwegian str., for Bangkok.
- 9, Sachsen, German str., for Europe.
- 9, Siam, British str., for Singapore.
- 9, Telemachus, British str., for Saigon.
- 9, Tjilatjap, Dutch str., for Macassar.
- 10, Apenrade, German str., for Pakhoi.
- 10, Australian, British str., for Yokohama.
- 10, Cressy, British cruiser, for Shanghai.

- 10, Else, German str., for Canton.
- 10, Hailan, French str., for Hoihow.
- 10, Kwanglee, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
- 10, Lyeemoon, German str., for Shanghai.
- 10, Palatinia, British str., for Sasebo.
- 10, Phuyen, French str., for Saigon.
- 10, Sungkiang, British str., for Cebu.
- 10, Wosang, British str., for Tientsin.
- 10, Yuensang, British str., for Manila.
- 11, Alesia, German str., for Tsingtau.
- 11, Benarty, British str., for Nagasaki.
- 11, Capri, Italian str., for Bombay.
- 11, Changchow, British str., for Shanghai.
- 11, Chingwo, British str., for Salina Cruz.
- 11, Glenogle, British str., for Amoy.
- 11, Kowloon, German str., for Canton.
- 11, Main, German transport, for Kiangtshou.
- 11, Mercedes, British str., for Japan.
- 11, Oscar II, Norwegian str., for Kutchinotzu.
- 11, Pronto, Norwegian str., for Canton.
- 11, Rubi, British str., for Manila.
- 11, Stentor, British str., for Vancouver.
- 11, Taiping, Chinese str., for Chinkiang.
- 11, Taksang, British str., for Bangkok.
- 11, Tientsin, British str., for Shanghai.
- 12, Haiching, British str., for Coast Ports.
- 12, M. Struve, German str., for Tamsui.
- 12, Sardinia, British str., for Shanghai.
- 12, Tingsang, British str., for Canton.

PASSENGER LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Simla*, from Shanghai for London, Mr. and Mrs. Leach, Mrs. Consterdine, Mrs. McGee, Messrs. J. MacArthur, A. S. Harris, and A. Dyson; for Marseilles, Mr. Lecacheux, Madame and child; for Bombay, Mrs. Leach's two children, Messrs. Q. M. Sergt. Patterson and F. S. Gara; for Hongkong, Mrs. Gordon Dunston, Misses K. Bassett and S. Lewis, Messrs. H. Phillips, Bastian, and E. F. Hopkinson; from Yokohama for Bombay, Mr. Isa Nisimaki.

Per *Seydlitz*, for Hongkong, from Southampton, Messrs. E. A. G. May and H. E. Scents; from Genoa, Mr. and Mrs. A. Rubl, Mr. and Mrs. Grunberg, Miss Sarah Misco, and Mr. G. Contillac; from Colombo, Mr. W. Ketchi; from Penang, Mr. D. R. P. Pete; from Singapore, Mr. and Mrs. J. Thomas, Misses J. T. C. Hawming and E. Freeman, Messrs. J. Reymann, C. A. A. Dutok de Wit, R. Reel, J. D. McKay, J. B. Gibbons, B. K. Daniels, and R. Lenzinger.

Per *Sachsen*, for Hongkong, from Yokohama, Messrs. H. Stewart, C. Bryan, and Mrs. Silva; from Kobe, Mr. T. Ariu, Capt. G. Warner, Messrs. C. H. Hicking and S. Nomura; from Nagasaki, Mrs. M. Muir and Mr. S. Nugata; from Shanghai, Messrs. Wood, Looksmith, H. E. Watts, T. B. Roche, Capt. C. Mead, Sir Wilkinson, Messrs. Karl Alberts, Philipp Stanley, B. A. Farline, H. Lerbeck, Mr. and Mrs. Vaille, Mrs. Empson, Mrs. Nightingale, Mrs. Lillian Gedder, Mrs. Della Lee, Mrs. Th. Hamilton, Messrs. Willy Driscoll, Leslie Creves, Frank Peachey, A. Rault, Fred. Smith, S. Oki; from Foochow, Messrs. E. H. Hinds and Nemasse; for Singapore, from Yokohama, Messrs. K. Tavani, W. van Orden, and P. Hessel; from Kobe, Mr. Kitano and party; from Shanghai, Messrs. G. Harrison, A. Pinson, T. Bongaardt, A. Herrebrugh, W. den Hond, P. de Jong, Mrs. Robinson, Mrs. Hassenauer, and Mr. B. Booker; for Colombo, from Yokohama, Mr. Kanzo Tozaki; from Kobe, Mr. O. Sauer; for Port Said, from Yokohama, Mr. Esche; from Shanghai, Messrs. N. Molotkoff, H. Bogdanoff, E. Genn, B. Mokassof, G. Rosilizky, V. Dsatschuk, N. Belosserof, S. Taisoky, F. Moisekuro, T. Nurmukamelof, Mrs. Herotunosoki, Messrs. E. Kotof and A. Draving; for Naples, from Shanghai, Mr. A. Sermino; for Genoa, from Yokohama, Messrs. Hopath Dobrikow, K. Kroeber, and Feldmesser Dalladat; from Shanghai, Messrs. Batt. Strenger, W. Armendinger, G. Peterson, Mrs. Gericke, Mr. Wilph. Schattschneider, Capt. Gertner, Mrs. Campbell, Messrs. Helene Hartvig and A. Marsh; from Foochow, Consul Piehl; for Southampton, from Yokohama, Messrs. Aslet and W. L. Mitchell; from Shanghai, Mr. Keble; for Bremen, from Shanghai, Messrs. P. Lehmann and Linkharsh; for Bremerhaven, Mr. Ackershausen; for London, from Yokohama, Miss Cockshaw; from Shanghai, Messrs. M. Leavy, A. Moore, J. Burnside, and Mrs. Lien; from Foochow, Mrs. Maine and Mrs. Stephenson.

DEPARTED.

Per *Simla*, from Yokohama for Bombay, Mr. Isa Misimaka; from Shanghai for London, Mr. and Mrs. C. Leach, Mrs. Consterdine, Mrs. McGee, Messrs. John Mac Arthur, A. S. Harris and A. Dyson; for Marseilles, Mr. and Madame Lacacheux and infant; for Bombay, Mrs. Leaches and two children, Messrs. F. S. Gara and Q. M. Sergt. Patterson; from Hongkong for London, Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Popham, Sergt. and Mrs. Beedle and two children, Sergt. and Mrs. S. Senior, child and infant, Mrs. W. A. Barnett and child, Messrs. H. Woodward, Ernest G. Tricket, J. O'Connell, Wm. H. Carter Henry Rose, pte. R.M.L.I., and P. W. Sergeant; for Colombo, Mr. G. J. Clark; for Singapore, Mrs. Gerald Pike, Messrs. Engr. Lieut. A. W. Littlewood, John Ferguson, C.P.O., Edwin Carbin, Alfred Oliver, M.R.A., Wm. Collings, C.M.R.A., and Jas. Yates, M.R.A.

Per *Gaelic*, for Keelung (Formosa), Mr. W. A. Railton; for Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. E. Steele, Mr. and Mrs. Bardwell, Messrs. J. J. Leiria, Jno. S. Barnes, John Latta, and G. A. Yvanovich; for Nagasaki, Lieut. and Mrs. J. A. Ruggles; for Yokohama, Lieuts. N. W. Benton and Craig, Messrs. F. E. Shaw and W. H. Walker; for San Francisco, &c., Rev. and Mrs. G. H. Harvey, Mrs. R. M. McWade, Dr. G. H. Ostrander, Rev. A. B. Caldwell, Messrs. G. A. Goss, H. J. Rosencrantz, J. H. Aldrich, and J. J. Keegan.

Per *Oldenburg*, from Hongkong, for Bremen, Mr. and Mrs. Frohn and child, Mrs. J. Gidley, Mrs. Langereis and children, Mrs. Richardson and child, Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Stinclair, Mrs. Veloschnikoff and child, Miss von Fallot, Dra. Kder and Hallier, Capt. E. T. Moxon, Messrs. C. Bell, John G. Blazer, H. Bourton, E. Cameron, J. Capstaff, Chausse, H. Chevalier, T. P. Deane, Alfred Erdmann, Hausner, N. J. Hutchison, W. D. Hyland, Th. Jastredge, B. Matsumoto, B. A. Meyer, Walter E. Morris, Osgood, E. Sprungli, A. H. Zeller, and Anna Lady Croft.

Per *Seydlitz*, for Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. Nielsen, Rev. T. Johnson, Misses F. Hober, Feldermann, Rouse, Stenger, Lander, L. Sauml, M. Fraser, and E. Rowe, Messrs. F. Hohnke, F. Reinbold, Kanor, Glumas, and B. N. Ezra; for Nagasaki, Mrs. Kioko, Mrs. Oschitto, Capt. Muhle, Misses C. Whitemann and Okima, Messrs. J. Nakamura and Malakan; for Kobe, Messrs. J. Mackertoom and T. Tonohara; for Yokohama, Mrs. L. Davies, Mrs. Robils, Mrs. Weinberg, Capt. T. Rowin, Messrs. J. Rymmano, W. W. Pelling, T. Kaseya, J. de Las Reyes, S. Nishigori, Fr. Batsch, G. M. Charles, Elpnas, and Marsia.

Per *Sachsen*, from Hongkong, for Bremen, Mr. and Mrs. Ackenhausen, Mrs. Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. E. Brammer, Mrs. Campbell, Mr. and Mrs. Clark, Rev. and Mrs. Day and children, Mrs. Helene Hartwig and child, Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Hodgson, Mrs. Hoyer and children, Mr. and Mrs. K. Jwazaki, Mr. and Mrs. A. M. J. C. Jervooren and children, Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Lawshe, Miss Lawshe, Mrs. Maine and children, Mrs. A. Murphine and child, Mrs. Nicholas, Mrs. Robinson, Mr. and Mrs. Charles M. Russell, Mr. and Mrs. Sanborn, Mrs. Stephenson, Mrs. M. Taylor, Mr. and Mrs. Twyford and child, Mrs. Vernon, Mr. and Mrs. Pastor Witt and children, Mrs. Gericke, Capt. Bendixen and Gertner, Dr. Fuerstenberg, Misses Lily Carsia, Cockshaw, Hassenauer, and Tamaela, Messrs. W. Armendinger, Aslet, B. Becker, J. A. Bongaardt, Feldmesser Dalladat, Hofrat Dobrikow, T. J. Eldridge, A. E. Esche, F. Foremny, H. Gipperich, C. A. R. Hachfeld, O. Herrebrugh, P. Hessel, E. H. Hinds, W. den Hond, Johnson, F. T. Jones, P. de Jong, Keble K. Kroeber, Kurz, O. Magnoni, Meyer, A. Marth, W. L. Mitchell, N. J. Molotkoff, W. von Orden, Namesee, Albert Otto, G. H. Peterson, Aug. Piehl, A. v. Pinson, A. Scermino, Wilh. Schattschneider, H. Schoonick, H. Th. Schomaker, August Schomburg, Strenger, S. Swart, Tawara, M. Timrod, P. Lehmann, W. J. Veale, W. A. Washbrook, Herbert S. Washbrook, van de Weide, and Ing. P. Warthmann.

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